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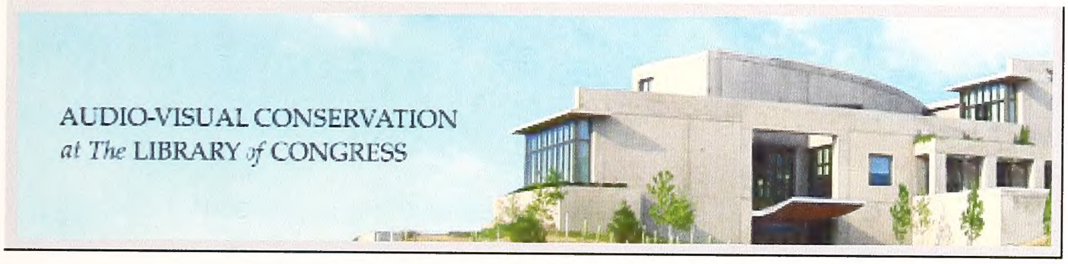
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MP 20-23
(22)

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VOL. 62. NO. 1 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

Law Has Limit On Theatre Construction

Rent Act Exempts $2,500 Theatre Jobs from Permit

WASHINGTON, June 30. — Close on the heels of President Truman's reluctant approval of the rent bill today, Housing expediter Creedon announced that construction permits must be obtained by all persons planning to build theatres and other types of amusement structures.

The new rent law retains only one limitation on commercial construction out of all those formerly exercised by the Government—the expediter, if he finds a building material shortage exists or threatens, can require a permit for amusement and recreational construction.

Creedon apparently finds a material shortage does exist.

The small-job exemption always granted by the Government will be retained under the new regulation, according to Creedon. This provides that any theatre project can be under-

(*Continued on page 6*)

'Diddlebock' Title Was $100,000 Error

Howard Hughes Productions got off on the wrong foot in promotional efforts to endear "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock" to exhibitors and box-office customers, sales chief Harry Gold frankly admitted here yesterday. He said $100,000 had been spent before the selling approach was realized to be a wrong one and consequently all prepared copy, trailers and costly planning were scrapped.

The chief mistake was the title. Gold said he learned after a few test runs in and around Miami. "Sin" suggest-

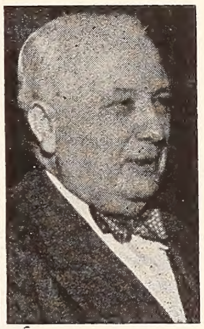
(*Continued on page 7*)

Brussels Top Prize To 'Man About Town'

BRUSSELS, June 30.—The grand festival prize, the St. Michael statuette, has been awarded to "Silence Is Golden," joint RKO-Radio and Pathe Cinema production by Rene Clair, at the World Film Festival here. (RKO-Radio is distributing the film, starring

(*Continued on page 8*)

Casey Trip Delayed After New CSU Bid



Pat Casey

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—Amid mounting speculation about repercussions of the weekend offer by the Conference of Studio Unions to submit the studio jurisdictional dispute to arbitration with Pat Casey, veteran industry labor counselor, as arbitrator, it was learned here today that Casey, who was to have departed for New York last night, has delayed his trip for a week to 10 days. The delay, he said, was to enable him to attend to "personal matters."

While withholding direct comment

(*Continued on page 6*)

Form International Variety Committee

A committee has been formed to encourage international expansion of Variety Clubs. The committee comprises: John H. Harris, Big Boss and founder of the clubs; R. J. O'Donnell, national Chief Barker; John J. Fitzgibbons, Chief Barker of the Canadian tent, and Luis Montes, Chief Barker of the Mexican tent. William

(*Continued on page 6*)

Dalton Moves for a Film Import Duty

London, June 30.—Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, today, after indicating a substantial reduction of imports in tobacco, petrol and newsprint, for which he is already empowered, asked the House of Commons for the power to levy an import duty to "enable me to economize on foreign exchange" in that category. Dalton appeared in support of the government's request for permission to place an ad valorem duty on films, as made in Commons by Dalton last Tuesday.

WB Salesmen at 1st Convention in Years

Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Brothers, has set two sales conventions, one to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, July 31-August 2, for the Eastern, Central, Mid-Atlantic and Canadian sales forces, and the other at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, Aug. 4-6, for the Midwest, Prairie, Southeast, Southwest and West Coast forces.

District managers, branch managers and salesmen will be at the meetings, the first to be attended by WB salesmen since the pre-war years, five years ago.

In addition to Kalmenson, home office executives attending both sessions

(*Continued on page 7*)

Showmanship Education Program in So. America

Shutdown Threatens All London Studios

London, June 30.—Complete holdup is threatened at all studios by 255 plasterers who have given a week's notice owing to dissatisfaction over new wages and grading. Denham and Pinewood have taken precautionary measures by giving a week's notice to all set workers because without plasterers production cannot continue. NATKE says probably further developments can be expected tomorrow.

Twentieth Century-Fox has launched a program of showmanship education in South America and, thus far, the program has brought very favorable results, it was disclosed here yesterday by William L. Sullivan, the company's South America manager, who is visiting New York from Buenos Aires for two weeks of conferences.

Essence of the program, Sullivan explained, is to encourage theatremen to make their houses more comfortable for patrons and to point out to them the fallacy of booking inferior product so that admissions can be kept down. In the latter connection, Sullivan said, South American exhibitors have been booking "cheap" product with a view to drawing heavy atten-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Defendants to Defer Theatre Holding Moves

Awaits Supreme Court Action, Loew's Reports

Few adjustments in theatre holdings are planned by the five theatre-owning defendents in the New York anti-trust case until the U. S. Supreme Court acts on the New York Federal Court's ruling that ownership of between five and 95 per cent interests is illegal after Dec. 31, 1948.

Loew's in behalf of itself reported this to the New York court yesterday while various spokesmen indicate the same position will be taken by RKO, Paramount, Warners and 20th Century-Fox in statements to the court today. Today is the deadline for the companies' official reports on changes in holdings and others planned in compliance with the "5-95" provision of the New York decree.

All five feel moves to increase or

(*Continued on page 7*)

Smith Names Minsky Peppiatt Successor

Howard Minsky, formerly 20th Century-Fox branch manager in Buffalo, has been named sales manager for the Mideast division, with headquarters in Philadelphia, succeeding the late Cecil E. Peppiatt. Minsky's appointment will become effective

(*Continued on page 6*)

Ready Final Papers For Pickford Deal

Papers were being drawn up here yesterday for the sale of Mary Pickford's half interest in United Artists to the Si Fabian-First National Bank of Boston bidders, and were to be pre-

(*Continued on page 7*)

3 Reviews Today

"Cry Wolf" and "The Crimson Key" on page 5; 'Heartaches" on page 7. Key city gross reports are on page 8.

Producers Ignore Trends, Says ATOI

INDIANAPOLIS, June 30.—Criticism of film producers as imitating the beer and whisky barons of years ago who ignored the trend of the times and finally were brought up short by the Volstead Act, is voiced in the current bulletin of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana.

The bulletin declares that a small town exhibitor who discussed exhibition problems with a group of producers at the recent Variety Club Coast convention was "astounded at the total lack of knowledge these men have of the market they attempt to service." When the exhibitor told the producers, according to the bulletin, that he would not play "Duel in the Sun" and "The Outlaw," the producers were amazed, saying: "These pictures are doing well at the box-office."

"The producers by their very retort," ATOI charges, "show that they are governed only by a distorted profit motive."

ATOI also commented on a report carried in the *Catholic Chronicle* of Toledo, headed: "Movie Studios Slam Door on Joan Leslie for Refusing to Play Immoral Roles." The ATOI said: "We say Hollywood could use more people like Joan Leslie—people with a good sense of morals. Stars should be allowed freedom of conscience."

Shaffer and Beltz QP Award Winners

Willis E. Shaffer, manager of Fox Atchison theatres, Atchison, Kansas, was judged the winner in the second quarter for the 1947 Quigley Awards, yesterday, with Percival B. Singh, manager of the De Luxe theatre, Port of Spain, Trinidad, as top man among entries for the overseas citation.

Larry Beltz, Grand Theatre, Wausau, Wisc.; Bill Brown, Bijou Theatre, New Haven; C. R. Hacker, Palace Theatre, Milwaukee; W. T. Hastings, Orpheum, Denver; R. Koutnik, Fox Wisconsin, Milwaukee; P. E. McCoy, Modjeska, Augusta, Ga., and Nathan Wise, RKO Theatres, Cincinnati, were listed to receive "Scrolls of Honor" by the judges.

An unusually large number of contenders and entries made judging difficult for three judges who examined nearly 100 separate campaigns to determine the winners. The judges were Gilbert Golden, advertising director for Warner Brothers; Fortunat Baronat, foreign publicity director for Universal-International and Michael Edelstein, division manager of RKO

Quigley Overseas Award To Be Presented August 8

LONDON, June 30.—The Quigley Overseas Award for showmanship will be presented to Frank Bradley, the winner of this year's award, by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, on Aug. 8. Under tentative arrangements, the award will be made on the stage of the Gaumont Theatre, Sheffield.

Personal Mention

MURRAY SILVERSTONE, 20th Century-Fox International president, MRS. SILVERSTONE and their two daughters; WILLIAM J. KUPPER, managing director of 20th-Fox in Great Britain; MRS. HAL WALLIS; WILLIAM B. LEVY, general sales manager of Walt Disney Prod., and MRS. LEVY are among passengers who will sail for Europe tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

•

EDWARD BENJAMIN, former Warner exploiteer in Minneapolis and more recently handling special assignments for United Artists, has been named secretary to Mayor Humphrey of that city.

•

AL BLOCK, member of Variety Club, Tent No. 2, Columbus, and JANET LEVEN, of Chicago, account executive for the Abbott Kimball Agency, have set Sept. 27 for their wedding.

•

E. ALLAN WILLIFORD, Ansco general manager, has been elected a director of Associated Industries of New York State, a group of civic and business leaders.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising and publicity director, has been confined to his home with illness for the past several days.

•

HERB CROOKER, M-G-M publicity manager, has a story, "Sailor Takes a Mate," in the current issue of *Pic* magazine.

•

SAMUEL VORZIMER, who handles exploitation tie-ups for Paramount, has returned to the studio from New York.

•

CLYDE W. HOUSTON, Producers Releasing salesman in Dallas, has been granted a temporary leave due to illness.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, is visiting Buffalo and Albany.

•

JOEL LEVY, Loew out-of-town booker, has returned to the home office from a New England tour.

•

CHARLIE DURMEYER, Southern Automatic Candy Co. head, is in Florida on business from Atlanta.

MANNY REINER, Latin America sales manager for Selznick Releasing Organization, is in town for conferences with NEIL AGNEW, president, and LAUDY LAWRENCE, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution.

•

HENRY KRUMM, Selznick Releasing Organization special representative in Atlanta, is in Charlotte, while BERT DAVIS, special sales representative, is in Tennessee from Atlanta.

•

ERIC MARSHALL, consulting engineer for Alexander Films, Ampro distributor for the Union of South Africa, was a recent visitor at the Ampro plant in Chicago.

•

L. G. TAVALLERA, manager of Fox West Coast's Paramount Theatre, has succeeded RAY DUDDY as manager of the Fox California, Stockton.

•

ALAN F. CUMMINGS, in charge of M-G-M exchange operations and maintenance, has returned to New York from a vacation.

•

JIMMY POWERS, Paramount home office photographer, and MRS. POWERS became parents of their second daughter on Saturday.

•

JACK KIRBY, Warner Southern district manager, Atlanta, is visiting RALPH IANNUZZI, branch manager in Charlotte.

•

BOB HAMILTON, manager of the Warner Gem Theatre, Willimantic, Conn., is recuperating from an illness.

•

HERB COLEMAN, formerly of Amalgamated Theatres, New Haven, and MRS. COLEMAN are parents of a boy.

•

LAURITZ GARMAN, owner of the Uptown Theatre, Baltimore, has returned from an Atlantic City vacation.

•

CHARLES H. JONES, formerly of North Carolina, has joined Altec and will be assigned to Philadelphia.

•

LEON H. ROBBINS, of the Lincoln Theatre, Gainesville, Fla., and MRS. ROBBINS are parents of a boy.

•

WILLIAM D. KELLY, head of M-G-M's print department, has returned from a Maine vacation.

See Fisher in Top Canadian E-L Post

TORONTO, June 30.—Frank Fisher, former Canadian Odeon circuit booking manager, who was transferred to Eagle-Lion here as sales manager a year ago, is expected to be named general manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, Ltd., succeeding Archie J. Laurie, who has resigned due to ill health.

New PRC Appointment

Charles Kalmenson has been accepted in the Pittsburgh branch as a "GI" trainee, under branch manager John Zomnir, by Ralph Clark, general sales manager of Producers Releasing.

Smallens Will Head Music at Music Hall

Alexander Smallens, symphonic opera and ballet conductor, has been appointed music director of Radio City Music Hall, Rockefeller Center, by G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director. Smallens will assume his new duties this month and will make his first appearance with the Music Hall symphony in the fall. He succeeds Charles Previn.

William Pay Married

LONDON, June 30.—William Pay of Quigley Publications' London Bureau was married on Saturday to Margaret Toomey at Billericay, Essex.

O'Dwyer, Producers To Meet Here Today

Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York and "some important motion picture industry people" will hold a conference at City Hall, here, today, the Mayor's office disclosed last night, but declined to state who will be O'Dwyer's conference guests or what will be discussed. It is understood, however, that the meeting will be [illegible] producers to weigh steps for inc[illegible]ing production activities in New York. O'Dwyer has stated officially many times that he is determined to encourage production here.

Meanwhile the Mayor's office said that discussions between industry representatives and the city's Department of Commerce, leading toward the elimination of "red tape" which has been hampering location shooting in New York, will be resumed as soon as a new commerce commissioner has been named by the Mayor to succeed former commissioner George Sanders, resigned.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
PAT O'BRIEN · WALTER SLEZAK · ANNE JEFFREYS
in
'RIFF-RAFF'
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Alan LADD
GAIL RUSSELL
'CALCUTTA'
IN PERSON
CROSS & DUNN
EXTRA!
Fred & Elaine BARRY
OTHERS

WILLIAM HOLDEN · JOAN CAULFIELD
in
"Dear Ruth"
with
BILLY DE WOLFE · EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

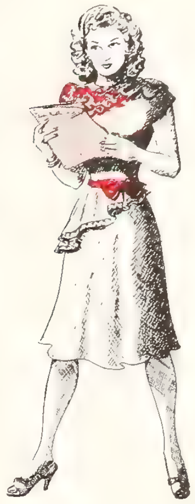
'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
32ND WEEK!
COOL
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

"Dear Ruth" is the wonder Of all current shows... The longer she runs The bigger she grows!

!

2nd WEEK AT DENHAM, DENVER, TOPPED THE FIRST...



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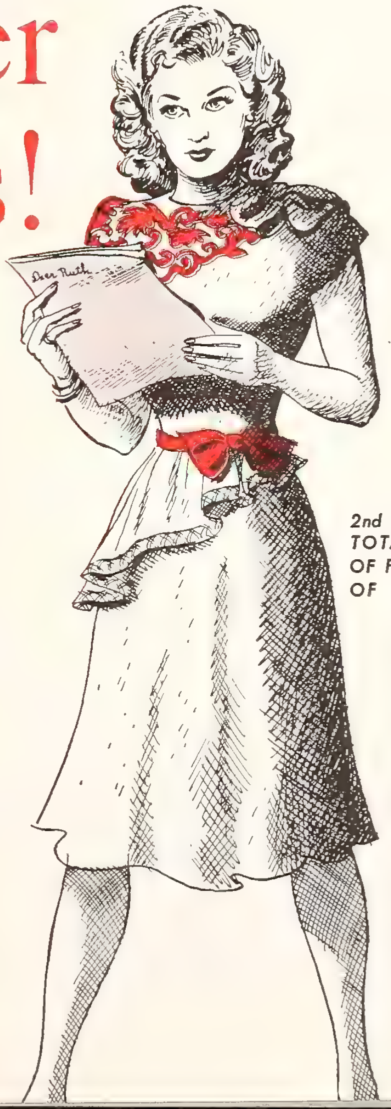
2nd DAY OF 2nd WEEK AT N. Y. PARAMOUNT BEAT OPENING DAY BY 10%...

!

3rd DAY OF 2nd WEEK 15% OVER SAME DAY 1st WEEK...



2nd WEEK N. Y. PARAMOUNT TOTAL 'WAY OUT FRONT OF FIRST... AND FIRST DAY OF THIRD WEEK EQUALS OPENING DAY!

Paramount
presents
WILLIAM HOLDEN · JOAN CAULFIELD in "DEAR RUTH"
with BILLY DE WOLFE · EDWARD ARNOLD · MONA FREEMAN
Mary Philips • Virginia Welles • Kenny O'Morrison • Produced by Paul Jones • Directed by William D. Russell • Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman • Based on a Play by Norman Krasna

Short Subject

"Piano Reflections"

(Sack Amusement)

Concert pianist Arthur Koch demonstrates his keyboard technique with three well-known classical pieces in this subject produced by Alfred N. Sack and directed by Ernest Steiss. Devotees of good music are sure to enjoy the sparkling piano renditions of Tchaikovsky's Concerto, Strauss' "Tales of the Vienna Woods," and Chopin's "Polonaise," while the camera catches the agile fingerwork of the artist from sundry vantage points. The film is being distributed by Sack Amusement Enterprises, Dallas. Running time, 29 minutes.

Unity Sought Among Mexican Producers

MEXICO CITY, June 30. — Mexican producers are moving to remedy two things which they say hamper the Mexican picture industry, lack of unity and harmony among producers and restricted bank credits.

The former, some producers contend, is even worse than the latter because, they hold, it makes distribution in Mexico and abroad more complicated. This lack of unity was engendered by the wartime boom in Latin America, it is said, when exhibitors actually implored Mexican producers for pictures and even Hollywood competition was not serious. Now it is different.

The industry's own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, financed only 22 of the 74 films produced last year. The bank is to be reorganized and its capital increased to $6,000,000 so that it can serve the industry better. A feature of this new service will enable the largest producers—Clasa-Films Mundiales, Filmex, Producciones Grovas and Producciones Raul de Anda—to consummate the alliance they have formed to combat what they style is a monopoly by some exhibitors, which, they complain, keeps many Mexican pictures from exhibition in Mexico. Some exhibitiors assert that the real reason for many Mexican pictures failing to get exhibition in Mexico is that exhibitors refuse to take a chance on them.

Building Permits For 12 FM Stations

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The Federal Communications Commission has issued conditional grants or construction permits for 12 new FM stations in Weslaco, Tex.; Clarksburg, W. Va.; Ft. Smith, Ark.; San Diego, Cal.; San Jose, Cal.; San Bruno, Cal.; Merced, Cal.; Wilmington; Miami; Burlington, Ia.; Asheville, N. C., and Houston.

Ban on Duals Floods French Film Market

By MAURICE BESSY

PARIS, June 25 (By Airmail). — The continuing prohibition on double features, in effect since the German occupation, and the unlimited importation of foreign pictures, has placed more film programs on the market today than before the war. Before the war 100 to 120 new French features and 188 dubbed foreign features were on the market each year. Today, with French production at 75 features yearly, it appears that the number of new features on the market will rise to 300, including 225 dubbed foreign films.

Twenty French features are currently in production. Three of the largest are an adaptation by Jean Cocteau of Victor Hugo's "Ruy Blas," starring Danielle Darrieux and Jean Marais; a Franco-Italian co-production in Italy of Stendahl's "La Chartreuse de Parme," and "La Fleur de l'Age," directed by Marcel Carne and starring Arletty and Serge Reggiani.

Danziger Joins Para. In Publicity Post

William E. Danziger, recently with J. Arthur Rank productions released through Universal-International, has joined Paramount as an executive publicist assigned to Cecil B. De Mille's production, "Unconquered," Curtis Mitchell, Paramount advertising-publicity chief, has announced. Danziger was previously associated with Paramount from 1923 to 1932.

At the same time, Mitchell announced that Mort Nathanson, executive publicist who joined the company recently, is working on special openings of "Dear Ruth," while Bill Johnston has drawn Hal Wallis' "Desert Fury" as his next assignment.

Jack Powell to Sack

DALLAS, June 30. — Jack Powell, former professor of educational sciences in the University of North Carolina, has been appointed national 16mm. sales manager for Sack Amusement Enterprises. Although Powell will have headquarters in Dallas at the home office, a New York 16mm. sales office will be established under his direction.

Republic, Autry Cancel

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—The second of two pictures which Gene Autry was to make for Republic under the terms of the settlement of their disputed contract has been cancelled by mutual agreement, Autry sources disclosed here.

1st '47-48 WB Release

National tradeshowing of "Deep Valley" has been set by Warner Brothers for Tuesday, July 29. This will be the first general release by Warners in 1947-48.

Wash. - Ida. - Alaska ITO Meet July 15

Seattle, June 30.—Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, Northern Idaho and Alaska will hold their annual meeting here on July 15, according to an announcement today by James Hone, executive secretary of the group.

Abbott and Costello In One for Eagle-Lion

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, whose previous comedies are said to have earned a profit of more than $17,000,000, have signed with Eagle-Lion Films for their first independent venture, "The Noose Hangs High," it was announced here today by Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of E-L production.

"The Noose Hangs High," budgeted at $1,600,000, will start on Aug. 18, and will be produced by Milton H. Feld, who has produced the 13 comedies in which the pair has starred. It will be the first solo film which Abbott and Costello will make under their new contract with Universal-International, under which they are permitted to make one outside picture yearly.

MPA Files Answer To Hughes Charges

The Motion Picture Association yesterday filed an answer in New York Federal Court to the second amended complaint in the $7,500,000 anti-trust action instituted by the Hughes Tool Co., parent company of Hughes Productions. MPA answered the complaint with a general denial of all allegations.

The defense claimed that Hughes was a member of the MPA and as such swore to uphold its rules and regulations, thereby barring any right of suit. The suit rose out of the suspension of Hughes from MPA because of advertising on "The Outlaw."

Burnup Struck by Hit-and-Run Car

LONDON, June 30.—Peter Burnup, London editor of MOTION PICTURE DAILY and *Motion Picture Herald*, was struck by a hit-and-run car here on Saturday. He was taken to a hospital where his injuries were described as serious but not critical. His condition was somewhat improved today.

Depinet Names Largey

Capt. Louis R. Largey, World War II Marine Corp. hero who will be retired as a major on Aug. 1, will at that time join the RKO Radio sales organization in Los Angeles, it was announced here yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio vice-president.

Rydge Honored on G.U.T. Anniversary

SYDNEY, June 20 (By Air Mail).— Norman B. Rydge, head of Greater Union Theatres, was honored here by the Australian film industry and his associates on the occasion of his 10th anniversary as chairman of the board of the company.

During his regime, company operations which had resulted in lo[illegible] became profitable; indebtedness [illegible] more than $1,000,000 was paid up, new film supplies were provided and the company expanded to the point where i now operates more than 100 theatres throughout the principal Australian cities and suburbs.

Congratulatory messages were received from Barney Balaban, Capt Harold Auten, Adolph Zukor, George Weltner, Cecil B. DeMille, Joseph McConville, Henry Ginsberg, Clemen Crystal and others in the American industry and elsewhere.

Reisman, RKO Group Here for Sales Meet

An RKO Radio group, headed by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign operations, arrived here yesterday aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth* to attend the firm's annual sales meeting on July 7-9 at the Waldorf-Astoria, here.

Accompanying Reisman were George Dawson, secretary and director of RKO, United Kingdom, and David Jones, RKO publicity director in the UK. Others arriving were John Mills and his wife, playwright Mary Hayley Bell.

Jones said that the firm has launched a special exploitation campaign in national magazines in England. He added that while the newsprint situation is improving, the material for posters has become scarcer.

Dawson reported that there had been a slight decline in box-office attendance because of the weather.

Mulvey Contingent To RKO Radio Meet

Samuel Goldwyn, who distributes through RKO Radio, will be represented at that company's 16th annual sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria, New York, July 7-9, by James A. Mulvey, president of Goldwyn Productions; Arthur Sachson, general sales manager; Alfred Crown, foreign sales manager; Lynn Farnol, advertising-publicity director, and staff members Henry Sember, William Ruder and George Weisman.

Cheyfitz to Coast

WASHINGTON, June 30.—Edward Cheyfitz, assistant to Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, left here today en route to Hollywood to work on the industry short subject series. Cheyfitz will stop over at his home in Ohio and will reach Hollywood early next week.

YOUR LOCAL VARIETY CLU

wner Shows 'Duel' ut Raps Price

BONHAM, Tex., June 30.—H. S. ole, owner of the Bonham Theatres, ought "Duel in the Sun" to his Elite heatre, here, but advised patrons not to pay that kind of prices" that ere set by the producer.

Cole stated that he brought "Duel the Sun" to the Elite "because of in[illegible]nt demand on the part of a rge[illegible]ber of people," but added at he was showing the film "against ur better judgment because we do ot believe motion pictures should be old at high prices."

He continued: "The public is inormed that this picture will not be hown at ordinary popular prices at ny time this year, and if we show at all, we must show it at the prices ndicated. These prices are Sunday fternoon and every night: Adults, 1.30; week day matinee, 80 cents, nd children, 50 cents."

G. M. A. Fecke, Film Veteran, Dies at 74

BOSTON, June 30.—Funeral services will be held here Wednesday for eorge M. A. Fecke, Quigley Publiations' New England representative ince 1931, and father of Herbert ecke, MOTION PICTURE DAILY adertising manager, and Alfred J. ecke, Producers Releasing Corp. oston branch manager. Fecke died ere suddenly over the weekend. Also urviving is another son, George.

An industry veteran, Fecke was for number of years New England ranch manager of the old World ilm Co., and later, in 1919, became n independent distributor.

Del Ruth's Bricker Stricken on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—Clarence Bricker, 55, production manager f Roy Del Ruth Productions, died ere of a heart attack last Friday while directing the shooting of scenes or "Mister Gideon." Shooting was eing done atop the Mark Hopkins Hotel when Bricker collapsed. He eaves a widow.

Bricker was a Hollywood techniian for a quarter of a century. He was associated with M-G-M for 20 ears before joining Del Ruth three ears ago.

Medbury, Writer, 54, Dies on West Coast

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—John P. Medbury, 54, onetime writer of the Amos and Andy" radio show and ag writer for Burns and Allen, died esterday at his Laguna Beach home f a heart ailment. A former newspaper man, he took up screen writing n 1936 and later wrote and narrated or travelogues.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Gladyse Medbury; a son, John Medbury, Jr., and a step-daughter, Mrs. Bud Stockwell.

Reviews

"Cry Wolf"

(Warner Brothers)

MELODRAMA is offered in triple strength in "Cry Wolf," a film whose primary box-office virtue is its reliable cast headed by Errol Flynn, Barbara Stanwyck, and Jerome Cowan. It is the type in which suspense is heightened by such devices as disembodied outcries, dark backgrounds and the sustained threat of veiled terror.

The screenplay, fashioned by Catherine Turney, has Miss Stanwyck stepping forth to claim an inheritance from her supposedly dead husband. This action, however, seems to throw out of gear the plans of Flynn, an uncle of the deceased who apparently was unaware of the marriage. Set at Flynn's gloomily-isolated mansion, events develop eerily, with Miss Stanwyck presently learning of a niece who is kept a virtual prisoner at the estate. At length, Miss Stanwyck begins to suspect that her husband is actually alive, with Flynn taking on the deepening lines of a villain.

Based on a novel by Marjorie Carleton, Miss Stanwyck's role is a dashing one in which she scales walls, leaps through windows and engages in some strong verbal exchanges with Flynn. As the story runs its course, the husband reappears, but it develops that he is a homicidal maniac whom Flynn was trying to shelter from the world. With the accidental death of the unfortunate husband, the air of mystery is cleared and the way finally paved for Miss Stanwyck to marry Flynn. Produced by Henry Blanke and directed by Peter Godfrey, pert Geraldine Brooks, in her first film role, fares impressively as the niece, who also is insane.

Running time, 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Aug. 15.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"The Crimson Key"

(20th Century-Fox)

A FAIR whirl of excitement is stirred up in "The Crimson Key," a 20th-Century-Fox mystery which presents plenty of puzzles for the customers who like to play armchair sleuth.

The Irving Elman original story and screenplay has a woman hire a private detective to trail her husband. Kent Taylor is the detective, and it is no testament to his ability when the husband is killed shortly thereafter. Not much footage passes before the wife goes the same way too. Proceeding along formula lines, a number of people fall into the orbit of suspicion as Taylor goes about gathering clues. Before the story is finally rounded out, there is a third murder, a gruesome beating, and a psychological explanation of some of the goings-on. An elusive key to a locker eventually establishes proof of the killer, with blackmail at the base of the crimes.

Vera Marshe, as the detective's secretary, holds up the slight romantic responsibilities. Others in the case are Doris Dowling, Dennis Hoey and Louise Currie. A Sol M. Wurtzel production, Eugene Forde directed with Howard Sheehan as associate producer.

Running time, 76 minutes. General audience classification. Set for July release.

M. H.

$400,000 Increase in Broadcast Equipment

WASHINGTON, June 30. — Sales of broadcasting and studio equipment totaled $3,257,394 for the first quarter of 1947, $400,000 more than during the last three months of 1946.

The Radio Manufacturers Association said deliveries of A. M. transmitting equipment increased from $788,567 in the last quarter of 1946 to $1,135,868 in the last first quarter of 1947; FM transmitter sales rose from $389,844 to $943,812 for the same periods.

Theatre Changes Runs

Following "Colonel Chabert," French-language picture starring Raimu and Marie Bell, at the Ambassador Theatre, here, Siritzky International, operator of the house, will inaugurate a summer policy of revivals and reissues of American pictures. In September, the house will revert to its original policy of first-run French films.

To Use Film Sound In B.&K. Video Show

CHICAGO, June 30.—For the first time in the history of WBKB, Chicago television station owned and operated by Balaban and Katz, cuts from sound tracks of six United Artists pictures will be incorporated in a 15-minute video program tomorrow night. The show, entitled, "Look Who's Talking," is an audience participation program featuring the voices of UA screen stars.

Although tomorrow's program is only a "show case" showing, several bids have already been made for its purchase. In addition, negotiations are also under way with Paramount and other film companies to incorporate sections of their sound track in future programs.

Gamble Acquires Two

PORTLAND, Ore., June 30.—The Liberty Theatre, Spokane, has been acquired by Ted Gamble who has appointed Nick Pierong manager. Gamble has also acquired the Avalon.

$800,000 for Films In Senate Measure

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The Senate today tentatively approved a $13,470,000 appropriation for the State Department's overseas information program, including $800,000 for the motion picture section.

Final action on the item, included in the State-Justice-Commerce appropriation bill, is expected tomorrow.

Meanwhile a Senate foreign relations subcommittee announced it would open hearings Wednesday on the House-approved Mundt bill, authorizing the information program. Senate Republican leaders have announced they do not plan to bring the measure to a vote this session.

Rep. Mundt today introduced another bill, appropriating $2,225,000 to the U. S. Office of Education for procurement and distribution of educational films showing the American way of life.

"In our efforts to repel Communism and other dictatorial concepts," Mundt said, "we have too long relied on a negative approach." Observers give the bill small chance of passage in this economy-minded Congress.

Extend Life of U.S. Film Liaison Unit

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The House today acted to continue temporarily the Office of Government Reports, including the film liaison section, until the Senate acts on OGR's appropriations. The House originally had voted OGR out of existence, effective today, but since the Senate has not yet had a chance to concur in or change that action, the lower House gave the agency a temporary new lease on life. OGR officials have asked the Senate to grant them the $600,000 denied by the House for operations during the coming fiscal year.

U. S. Denies Visa To Hans Eisler

WASHINGTON, June 30.—Hans Eisler, Hollywood composer under subpoena by the Thomas Committee on Un-American Activities, has been denied an exit visa by the State Department.

Eisler wanted to go to Paris to write the score for a picture.

He is expected to be called as a witness before the Thomas Committee in September. It was indicated that if he had been permitted to leave the country he might not have returned.

Preview in Deal for 11-Story Building

A contract has been signed for the purchase of the buildings at 245-249 West 55th Street, here, by Preview Theatre, Inc., an associate of Reeves Sound Studios, Inc. The building, consisting of 11 stories and penthouse, has more than 60,000 square feet and it is the intention of Preview to use more than half of the facilities.

WILL PLUG VARIETY GIRL

TESMA Trade Show To Display Video

CHICAGO, June 30.—A demonstration of television and television equipment will be one of the features of the annual national trade show of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association, Inc., at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington Sept. 24 to 29, Roy Boomer, secretary, announces. Radio Corporation of America will show much of this equipment for the first time.

At an opening meeting on all phases of the theatrical industry, manufacturers, theatre supply dealers and theatre owners will be addressed by several speakers. Discussions of theatre construction as well as prefabricated theatres, quonset types and drive-ins will be held. Theatre models will be on exhibition.

More than 70 exhibition booths have already been reserved by manufacturers of theatre equipment and building materials. The hotel room reservations to date assure a record attendance.

Argue Double Bills Question Over CBS

Double-feature programs were characterized as "obsolete, unfair to performers and unwanted by the public," by Eagle-Lion star Joan Leslie on Columbia Broadcasting's "In My Opinion" broadcast last evening. John Woodward, city manager for the M. A. Shea Theatres in Zanesville, O., took the negative stand on the question: "Should double-features be abolished?" He termed double bills "good business" and said he would continue to show two features on each program until his patrons indicated a preference for single showings.

Following the broadcast, Miss Lesdie was honor guest at a reception given by Eagle-Lion at the Sherry-Netherlands Hotel, here. Company representatives who attended included: Alfred W. Schwalberg, Max Youngstein, Hal Danson, Arthur Jeffrey, Lige Brien, Jerry Pickman, Jack Alicoate, Leo Brody, Herb Steinberg, Pat Snyder, Herb Berg and Rhoda Rich.

House Destroyed in Fire

MONTEREY, Cal., June 30.—The Del Rey Theatre and nine nearby shops have been destroyed by fire. Mark Keller, manager of the theatre, estimated the replacement value of the building at $200,000 and the value of contents at $50,000. The house belonged to the Golden State Theatre circuit. The circuit's Turlock Theatre in Turlock, recently damaged by fire, will be rebuilt and equipped, Rex Stevenson, general manager, has announced.

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Ainsworth in Charge Of Allied Convention

WASHINGTON, June 30.—Allied States' national convention in Milwaukee on Nov. 10-12, will be in charge of William L. Ainsworth, president of Allied's Wisconsin affiliate, and will take place at the Pfister Hotel.

A special arrangements committee representing National Allied has been authorized, consisting of Abram Myers, Jack Kirsch and Martin G. Smith.

International Variety

(*Continued from page* 1)

McCraw will serve as an ex-officio member.

The committee will meet frequently and will help groups in foreign countries which apply for charters. Inquiries have already come from Cuba, England, Australia, France and several South America countries.

The committee will be expanded to include the chief barkers of each new affiliation so that at all times the committee will have an international viewpoint for the betterment of clubs outside of the United States. It was reported at the recent convention that applications for charters are expected from London and Paris before the end of the year, and that Australia may also apply.

Name Schultz Barker Of Cleveland Variety

CLEVELAND, June 30.—Nate Schultz has been named chief barker of the Variety Club here, succeeding Harry Schreiber, RKO Theatres city manager, who was transferred to Columbus.

Schultz's first official act was to officiate at the inauguration of the newly purchased Greystone Mansion, which is to be the club's permanent home.

Smith Names Minsky

(*Continued from page* 1)

Monday, July 7, A. W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, announced here yesterday.

The district's offices which comprise the division are: Atlantic district: Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington; River district: Cincinnati Cleveland, Indianapolis. C. Glenn Norris is district manager for the Atlantic district, with headquarters in Philadelphia, and J. J. Grady is district manager of the River district with headquarters in Cincinnati.

Form Chicago Firm For Television

CHICAGO, June 30.—Television Engineering, Inc., has been formed to develop and handle special television systems and installations. The organization, founded by a group of electronic engineers, proposes to supplement commercial films with video and also to take part in large-screen television installations for theatres.

A. D. Giacchetti is president and J. L. Ladsliff and I. J. Kaluzna, vice-presidents.

License for FM

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The Federal Communications Commission announced a proposed decision today for the granting of 10 class B FM stations and one class A FM station in Cleveland, Akron and Elyria, Ohio.

SAG, Producers in 3rd Pact Extension

Hollywood, June 30.—"Sufficient progress has been made" in negotiations with producers for a new contract to warrant extension of the deadline until midnight, July 31, the Screen Actors Guild announced today. Extended twice previously, the deadline of the most recent extension would have expired tonight. The SAG statement also reiterated the agreement by the parties that all wage provisions would be retroactive to the expiration date of the former 10-year pact.

Casey Trip

(*Continued from page* 1)

on the latest development in the nine-month-old studio dispute, Casey indicated that he would accept the role of arbitrator if both factions, CSU and IATSE, agreed to the arrangement.

In its letter to Casey, Y. Frank Freeman, board chairman of the association of Motion Picture Producers, and to Richard Walsh, IATSE president, Herbert K. Sorrell, CSU chief, declared: "We will positively abide by any and all decisions he might make."

"We believe this will remove the sole obstacle which producers have stated stands in the way of settlement of the present lockout," the letter said in part, "and we stand ready to return to work immediately upon its acceptance."

The AMPP labor committee also withheld comment on the CSU suggestion, pending word from Walsh, but informed quarters believe the committee would agree to abide by Casey's decision.

Roy Brewer, International representative of IATSE, said that action with respect to the CSU offer would await the return of Walsh who is now en route home from England. Rejection of the proposal, however, was forecast by Brewer, who pointed out that the CSU offer ignores the authority of the presidents of the unions involved. The strike was called on the order of William Hutcheson, International president of the Carpenters' union, who has since declined Walsh's and other offers to meet on settlement, Brewer said.

Furthermore, locals cannot guarantee approval by International officers of any settlement reached at the local level, he added.

Casey's scheduled trip to New York will determine whether he will continue to retain his office there.

B. & K. in Clash with 'IA'

CHICAGO, June 30.—The Drake and Admiral, Balaban and Katz theatres here, have closed again for the second time within a month, as a result of friction with Operators' Local No. 110, IATSE. A meeting of the union has been called for tomorrow in an attempt to rectify the problem, which B. and K. claims to have resulted from union opposition to the removal of matinees. Gene Atkinson, business agent for IATSE, said that the closings constitute a labor contract violation.

British Films Gain Ground in Palestine

By IBRAHIM ZEIN

JAFFE, June 25 (By Airmail).—British pictures have begun to gain considerable appreciation on the part of Palestine patrons following the release of a number of good pictures. Eagle-Lion, the most important British company here, contracted its pictures with the Kersem and Migdalor thea[illegible] in Tel-Aviv, both first class. "Ca[illegible]n" showing in Migdalor, had an attendance of 45,000 in Tel-Aviv alone, according to Joseph Kremer, manager for Palestine and Transjordan with headquarters in Tel-Aviv. "The Seventh Veil," shown on the occasion of the 12th anniversary of the Armon theatre in Haifa, had an attendance of 25,000 despite the political situation existing in that city.

The May Theatre opened in Haifa recently with the Palestine premiere of 20th-Fox's "Anna and the King of Siam." The house is owned by Jacob Davidon. Other theatres are expected to open in Haifa soon.

Mituva Film has entered into an agreement with Pathe for the distribution of Pathe 16mm in Palestine. Green Brothers are distributing Eagle-Lion 16mm. pictures there.

Egypt produced 55 pictures in 1946. Production costs were six times as much as before the war.

Rent Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

taken without a permit if the cost is less than $2,500.

Permits will not be necessary for drive-in theatre screens, Creedon said, unless they contain building space within the structure. Other construction at drive-ins will come under the regulation.

Restrictions will not apply to sidewalks, driveways, bridges, lighting systems and similar construction items even though used in connection with theatres. Installation of air-conditioning, marquees, panelling, ventilating equipment, plumbing and certain other types of equipment will be covered if they are nailed, screwed, bolted, connected or cemented to the building, or installed on a base built for a particular item.

Approval of applications under the restriction will continue to be on the basis of negligible impact on the housing program, essential community facilities, necessary maintenance and repair, or severe and unsual hardship. A project will be considered as having negligible impact, Creedon stated, only if it uses none or only small quantities of building materials still in tight supply.

Housing expediter field construction offices are abolished by the new law, so that applications for theatre construction must be sent directly to the non-residential construction branch office of the housing expediter, Washington. Applications will be available in the 614 area rent offices throughout the country.

New UOPWA President

James H. Durkin has been elected president of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, parent of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild. He was elected by the union's general executive board to succeed Lewis Merrill, who resigned early in June because of ill health.

Pickford Deal

(*Continued from page 1*)

sented to Miss Pickford either last night or today.

No one close to the situation would venture a prediction whether Miss Pickford would sign or not, presumably because she has deferred her decision on several previous occasions. It was asserted, however, that every condition thus far laid down by Miss Pickford as the basis for a sale of her interest has been met in the revis[illegible]abian offer being drawn up.

Miss Pickford presently is scheduled to leave here for the Coast tomorrow. She has stated that the offer of the United Artists presidency to Tom J. Connors, former vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, has not been withdrawn. Apparently, that remains an alternative in the event a sale is not completed.

No formal proposal has been drawn for the Charles Chaplin half-interest in U. A., but the latter is understood to be prepared to deliver his stock in the company for $5,000,000 cash in the event Miss Pickford makes a deal.

Arnold Grant, Miss Pickford's attorney, left for the Coast yesterday on business other than the company sale.

'Diddlebock' Error

(*Continued from page 1*)

ed evil, "Diddlebock" was confusing and a cold reception of the picture was the result. Gold described as a "judicious extravagance" the decision to abandon the original promotion line, which was centered around the title, in favor of pointing up a combination of star Harold Lloyd's performance in the comedy, Preston Sturges' contributions as producer, director and writer, and a new title, "Mad Wednesday."

The new name, decided upon after extensive polling and research work, will be accompanied by campaign copy that will more accurately identify the picture and $250,000, at least, has been earmarked for a new promotion endeavor, Gold stated. This would be in keeping with the original investment of $2,500,000 in negative costs, he added.

Lang May Go Abroad

HOLLYWOOD, June 30.—Private interests from abroad have proposed a deal to producer-director Fritz Lang to transfer his Diana Productions banner across the water following completion of "Winchester 73", next and final picture for Universal-International under the contract which Lang, Joan Bennett and Walter Wanger hold with the Goetz-Spitz organization. Lang is reported to be interested in doing one picture abroad, but would not stay away any longer.

Knutson Gets Theatre

RED CLOUD, NEB., June 30.—C. P. Knutson, former exhibitor at Hastings, will take over the 500-seat Auditorium Theatre here from Bert Beams on Sept. 1. Beams will continue to run a theatre at Sutton.

Another Re-release from Franchise Holders of
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
Dean JAGGER David STONE George CLEVELAND
REVOLT OF THE ZOMBIES

Review

"Heartaches"

(*Producers Releasing Corp.*)

Hollywood, June 30

ALTHOUGH the schmaltzy song-like title of this one does not convey it to be a killer-on-the-loose melodrama, it is a rather originally fabricated mystery which, plus its behind-the-scenes-in-Hollywood setting, should make it generally entertaining, and a satisfying grosser in the right spots. The screenplay, by George Bricker, from an original by Monty Collins and Julian Peyser, while in the main following the "Who Killed Cock Robin?" pattern, occasionally takes off on new and novel angles to heighten the suspense.

One such striving for novelty, in the opening footage of the film, might have, however, been left in the cutting bins. A montage of Hollywood scenic spots to set the story's theme, and interior shots of a motion picture theatre to introduce the hero, they only burden and slow up the story's start.

In the main character roles, Sheila Ryan, Ken Farrell, Edward Norris, Chill Wills, Frank Orth and James Seay ably meet a test of their talents, with Wills giving an outstanding performance as the stooge and "voice" of the crooner screen star. Brief but commendable acting assignments are turned in by Chili Williams, Charles Mitchell, Al LaRue and Phyllis Blanchard.

Basil Wrangell, who won his directorial spurs at M-G-M, can be tabbed as heading for bigger and better things on the basis of his direction of this one.

The story's action hits its stride when mailed murder threats peril the life of a former sax player in a barnstorming band who has become a promising crooning screen star. His looming success has already been threatened when a snoopy newspaperman, whose girl friend is the crooner's aide, discovers that the singing star can't actually sing a note but uses a stooge's voice dubbed into the film. The murder of the crooner's agent diverts him from his exposé of the actor as a phony, and his further sleuthing results in framing a trap for the killer, saving the crooner's life.

Running time, 73 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

W.J.McG.

Theatre Holdings

(*Continued from page 1*)

decrease holdings before the high court's decision would be unfeasible for two reasons in particular. Buying out partners' interests at this time could mean selling later at a "sacrifice" if divestiture of all theatre properties is granted by the upper court, this being the aim of the Department of Justice. The companies' sale of partial holdings on the other hand would mean the loss of an important business which they have developed through the years in case the New York ruling is reversed.

Loew's reported that a good deal of work preliminary to complying with the decree has been accomplished, including accounting, tax analyses, and in some cases, negotiations, but states that no holdings have been disposed of nor have any been increased "because of the pendency of appeals." The company further reports that in a "number of instances co-owners, not parties to the decree, are reluctant to negotiate until a Supreme Court ruling."

The company lists ownership of between five and 95 per cent in conjunction with independent partners in these situations: Criterion, Stoddard and Olympia, New York; Valencia, Century and Parkway, Baltimore; Loew's United Artists, Louisville; Penn, Pittsburgh; Broad and Columbus, Columbus, O.; Carlton, Providence; Rhoades, Atlanta; Carrilon and Lee, Richmond; Penn, West Reading.

The company discloses it has 43½ per cent interests in conjunction with another defendant and an independent in Buffalo Theatres, Inc., comprising nine houses in Buffalo and one each in Niagara Falls, Lackawanna and Kenmore, all New York. Loew's, it also was stated, shares the Orpheum, Colorado, on a 50-50 basis with another defendant.

Meanwhile, still looming as a subject of dispute is the legal interpretation of theatre pools, the deadline for the dissolutions of which also is today. All companies report pools clearly within the court's definition have been liquidated.

However, the defendants and the Government are at odds on the legality of two or more theatres, which otherwise would be in competition, being operated jointly by two or more companies.

The Department of Justice contends that such joint operation constitutes a pool and is illegal. The distributors hold that such operation involving joint ownership is covered by the decree's restraints on theatre holdings. Additionally, they feel, the purpose of entering into such joint arrangements must first be considered and legitimate arguments against these could not be advanced unless restraint of trade is shown.

National Drops 11 Theatres From Pools

LOS ANGELES, June 30.—National Theatres will file a statement tomorrow with U. S. District Court, Southern District, New York, reporting dropping 11 pooled theatres, Charles Skouras announced today. They are the Liberty, Spokane; Avalon, Bellingham; Palomar and Roosevelt, Seattle, all operated by Evergreen; Fox and Strand, Menasha, Wisc.; Lloyd, Menominee, Mich.; Strand, Oshkosh; the Fond Du Lac in that city; Midway, Wasau, all operated by Fox Wisconsin, and the Arbo at Nevada, Mo., operated by Fox Midwest.

3 New Theatre Firms

ALBANY, N. Y., June 30.—Riverside Theatre Corp., Nero Theatre Corp. and Viera Theatre Corp. have been incorporated to conduct business in New York. Incorporators in all three instances are: Antonia Rossi and Marguerite Kuelling, New York City, and Ann Nicholls, Jackson Heights. Lewis M. Weber, New York, was incorporating attorney.

WB Sales Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

will include Samuel Schneider, vice-president; Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager; I. F. Dolid, assistant to Kalmenson; Bernard R. Goodman, supervisor of exchanges; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department; Howard Levinson of the legal staff; Bill Brumberg, manager of the field public relations staff; Charles Baily, assistant to Moray, and Stanley Hatch, head of the contract department. Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, will be at the New York meeting, while Roy Haines, Western division sales manager, and Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager, will attend the Chicago parley.

Latta Cautions Against 'Pessimism' At Upstate District Managers' Meet

ALBANY, N. Y., June 30.—Cautioning against "undue pessimism" because of the current box-office "recession," C. J. Latta, New York State zone manager for Warner Brothers, told a meeting of Eastern district managers here today that "fine fall product" makes the outlook for next season good.

C. A. Smakwitz, Latta's assistant, urged vigorous exploitation, while James Faughnan, contact manager, warned that care should be taken of expenses, large or small.

Managers present at the meeting included: A. O. LaFlamme, Oscar Perrin, S. Hutchinson, of Albany; Sid Sommer, Jack Swarthout, Joseph Stowell, Victor Bunze, of Troy, and Andrew Roy and George Laurie, Utica.

The Latta showmanship drive, which started in March, ended Saturday, celebrating the sixth anniversary of Latta's assumption of his present post when Moe Silver was named Pittsburgh zone manager.

26 Houses in Jamaica

WASHINGTON, June 30.—There are 26 motion picture theatres in Jamaica now in operation and nine in Haiti, according to a Department of Commerce report. The total seating capacity in Jamaica is slightly more than 20,000 with the Haiti seating capacity close to 5,000. Top admission price in Jamaica is 75 cents with 60 cents the top price in Haiti.

Open S.F. Theatre

SAN FRANCISCO, June 30.—The Guild Theatre was opened here recently by Robert L. Lippert, circuit operator. Formerly known as The Studio, the theatre opened with "The Great Waltz," and will maintain a policy of exhibiting reissues.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ATLANTA

Business generally was above average. The weather was hot. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 3:

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $8,200. (Average: $7,900)
CALCUTTA (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (30c-50c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $5,700)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue) LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (30c-50c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $14,000)
SMASH-UP (U-I)—FOX (4,661) (30c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)
SCARED TO DEATH (Screen Guild) and BEHIND THE MASK (Mono.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-44c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,200)

BALTIMORE

A list of fairly strong attractions gained substantially, and a weekend of showers kept pleasure-seekers from outdoor amusements. As a result, the week's grosses are somewhat better than average and show slight improvement over recent periods. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 3:

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,500)
CHEYENNE (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,500)
COPACABANA (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-46c-54c-56c: $5,000)
GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,500)
THE MIRACLE OF 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA) — TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)
THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-54c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)
THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-55c) 4th week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

TORONTO

Toronto residents flocked from the city for the extended weekend which included the Dominion Day holiday, with the result that theatres did not reap the complete benefit of the national fete. "Great Expectations" proved successful at Famous Players' Tivoli and Eglinton theatres here. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 4:

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: [illegible]
ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300). (Average: [illegible]
BOOMERANG (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: [illegible]
CALCUTTA (Para.) IMPERIAL (3,343) [illegible] 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,300)
FIESTA (M-G-M) LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,800)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: [illegible]
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,500)
THE WEB (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,400)

Production Increase In Rio de Janeiro

By I. A. EKERMAN

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 27 (By Airmail).—Production in this country is getting a new lease on life with signs pointing to greatly increased activity along this line. Plans for a Cinema City, to be located in Rio de Janeiro County within easy distance of the capital, have been drawn up by a group of investors. The project has the approval of the governor of the state of Rio. The studios would cover a space of some 25 million square meters (6,250 acres).

Luis Severiano Ribeiro, circuit operator and producer, has acquired the San Luis studios. Ribeiro, Jr., will be in charge of production.

A number of foreign interests also have their eye on this country as a production center. A group backed by Italian and Argentine money is planning erection of a studio in Sao Paulo, and French and American interests are considering building a studio in Rio.

Brussels Award

(*Continued from page* 1)

Maurice Chevalier, here, under the title of "Man About Town.")

Other grand prizes, given by the Belgian government went to "Odd Man Out," best production; "Best Years of Our Lives," best story; "Enamorada," best photography; Gerard Philip in "Le Diable au Corps," best actor; Myrna Loy in "Best Years of Our Lives," best actress; "Paisa," an Italian film, for exceptional qualities.

The grand prize for the best color cartoon was awarded to M-G-M's "Cat Concerto," a Fred Quimby production. The grand prize for puppets went to the Czechoslovakian "Dolls' Revolt." A grand prize for scientific films went to the American "Bronchial Tumors," by Paul Hollinger and Ralph Rigby.

'The Roosevelt Story' Wins Festival Prize in Documentary Field

"The Roosevelt Story" has been awarded the Brussels World Film Festival prize for the film "best exemplifying the philosophy of world neighborliness and international democratic principles," it was disclosed here yesterday by George R. Gompertz, representing Tola Productions.

A two-way international broadcast from Brussels, scene of the festival with Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt accepting the award here for the picture, took place yesterday. Mrs Roosevelt was guest of Mary Margaret McBride's program over WNBC. Participating in the broadcast in Brussels were Prime Minister Jean-Henri Spaak and Minister of the Interior I. Vermoylen.

The picture was produced by Martin Levine and Oliver Unger in association with Harry Brandt. Walter Klee was editor.

Showmanship

(*Continued from page* 1)

dances through low prices. The 20th-Fox educational program has made for increased admissions, but is regarded as a success since it has brought also increased business, Sullivan said.

Sullivan said South American theatres have been providing little comfort for patrons. Heating systems have been inadequate and seats have been hard and uninviting. Under the 20th-Fox program, large numbers of exhibitors have been convinced that improvements are necessary, and in locations where the advice has been followed business has mounted, Sullivan reported.

Gains in Bookings

Sullivan reported too that 20th-Fox has been successful in introducing day-and-date "splashes" in Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires. In the recent past, he said, American distributors were fortunate in being able to secure split-week and weekend bookings. Now, however, he disclosed, seven or eight theatres in Rio and three in Buenos Aires have been playing Hollywood films on day-and-date policies.

Sullivan forsees little likelihood of an Argentine quota law on film imports, since "American pictures set the tempo in South America" and business in general would suffer under a quota law. "The standard of quality is set by American pictures," and Argentine production could not possibly expand sufficiently in a reasonable time to counteract a reduction in American film imports.

Room for U. S.. Investment

Edward D. Cohen, the company's Latin America supervisor, said there is great room for American investment in South American theatre expansion, particularly in Brazil. That country of 44,000,000 persons has but 1,500 theatres, of which only 500 are worthwhile according to American standards, he said. American "showmanship know-how" could improve the theatre status of Brazil immeasurably, Cohen said. He said, too, that American pictures are being challenged competitively more and more every day by Russian, French and British product in South America, and added that American distributors appear to be meeting that competition successfully on all scores.

WB Transfers Baranek

CHARLOTTE, June 30.—Steve Baranek of Warner Brothers' home office, has been transferred here as WB office manager. Dennis Scruggs has been promoted to head booker at WB. Jack Sims is now second booker, and Charles Douglas, who was transferred from Atlanta, is third booker.

Two RKO Films Cited

Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music" and Liberty Films' "It's a Wonderful Life," both released by RKO Radio, have received special awards from the India Film Journalists' Association for "Outstanding Achievements in Film Making for 1946," RKO reports.

"Copacabana" Dated

The new United Artists musical, "Copacabana," Sam Coslow production which co-stars Groucho Marx and Carmen Miranda, will open its New York run at the Broadway theatre on Friday, July 11, the U. A. home office announces.

Hollywood

Hollywood, June 30

THE life story of the Russian writer, Fyodor Dostoievski, who achieved fame as author of "Crime and Punishment" and "The Brothers Karamazov," is to be filmed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, with Gottfried Reinhardt, son of the late Max Reinhardt, as producer. Rene [illegible]op-Miller, an authority on Dostoievski and European author, has been brought here to write the screenplay. . . . Allied Artists president Steve Broidy announces that "The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come," from the John Fox Jr., novel, will be filmed by that producing group. Gale Storm will be starred in the role originally created by Mollie O'Day in an earlier screen version of the novel. Walter Mirisch has been assigned to produce. King Brothers, who release through Allied Artists, announce the purchase of "Out of the Red," domestic comedy which revolves around an ex-soldier who marries a society girl.

●

Reckoning that Charlie Chaplin's switch from his famed derby, baggy pants, big shoes and cane to the foppish garb of the wife murderer in "Monsieur Verdoux" necessitates telling theatregoers in advance, two trailers will be used to give the picture exploitation. One will emphasize that the comic costume has been discarded for his new screen role. The other warns the public they will witness something "never before seen on the the screen." . . . Somerset Pictures' second film will be an as yet untitled prison story by Aubrey Wisberg, who wrote "The Burning Cross." Walter Colmes will direct and produce.

●

Mell Epstein, for 16 years an assistant director of features, and recently a director of shorts at Paramount, has been named a full producer at that studio. His first assignment will be "Hazard," filmization of a widely-read novel. . . . Columbia has set Gordon Douglas to direct their film version of Robert Louis Stevenson's "The Black Arrow," which Edward Small will produce. . . . Vincent Sherman will direct Warners' "Flamingo Road," with Jerry Wald as producer. . . . Columbia has named Nat Nazarro to direct "Six-Gun Law," second in the series of "Durango Kid" Westerns. . . . Chosen to co-star with Alan Ladd in Paramount's "The Long Grey Line," Joan Caulfield has been withdrawn from the lead of "Night Has a Thousand Eyes."

●

Mark Hellinger has engaged Ann Sargent, New York stage actress, to play opposite Don Taylor in "The Naked City" for Universal-International release. . . . Character actor Moroni Olsen has been given a lead in Warner's "Mary Hagen," Ronald Reagan-Shirley Temple starrer, being directed by Peter Godfrey. . . . Warner Baxter has returned from an Arizona vacation to start his starring role in Columbia's "The Crime Doctor's Gamble," which Charles Vidor will direct for producer Rudolph Flothow. . . . Irene Rich joins the cast of Argosy's "War Partry," John Ford-Merian C. Cooper picture.

W. J. McG.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 2 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 1947 TEN CENTS

Mary Pickford Accepts Fabian Bid for U. A.

Deal Is Contingent on Chaplin Sale by July 10

Mary Pickford yesterday accepted the Si Fabian bid for her half interest in United Artists, according to authoritative sources.

However, the closing of a deal with Miss Pickford is contingent upon Fabian and his associates being able to conclude the purchase of Charles Chaplin's half interest in the company by July 10.

Chaplin has indicated that he is prepared to turn over his United Artists stock holdings immediately upon receipt of a certified check for $5,000,000. If his position continues unchanged, observers here believe the 10-day closing period could be complied with readily.

However, the Fabian group recently expressed interest in buying Chaplin's production, "Monsieur Verdoux," and his Hollywood studio, outright. That would entail additional nego-

(*Continued on page* 2)

Weiner Named to Canada SRO Post

Charles M. Weiner, Selznick Releasing Organization branch manager in Minneapolis, has been promoted to Canadian division sales manager by Neil Agnew, SRO president. Weiner has had experience in Canadian sales as a United Artists district manager.

At the same time, Al Hertzenberg has been named district manager for South Africa. He was M-G-M rep-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Nelson Hits Rankin For Attack on 'Duel'

Washington, July 1.—Rep. Donald L. Jackson of California today inserted in the Congressional Record a letter from Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, defending the record of David Selznick in making "Duel in the Sun."

Nelson said attacks on the picture

(*Continued on page* 2)

BOT Says a Duty On Film Imports In UK Is Unlikely

London, July 1.—The British Board of Trade, in session here today, stated that the ad valorem duty on motion picture imports, as recommended last week by the Government to conserve dollar exports, is unlikely to be put into effect unless British films fail to earn sufficient dollars abroad. Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton on Monday appeared in the House of Commons in support of the Government's request for permission to place an ad valorem on film imports.

It was stated during the BOT meeting that Parliament already has powers to govern film rentals here, and that any attempt by American or other distributors in England to pass on any duty imposts to exhibitors or to the public and evade the purpose of an ad valorem duty could be checked.

The BOT further advised that if a new duty on film imports is applied, it will not affect quota regulations.

Nat'l Theatres In UK Films Lead-Off

First concrete move to be made as a result of affiliated circuits' agreement to give increased playing time to British pictures has been made by Charles Skouras who, following a luncheon he gave on the Coast recently for J. Arthur Rank, contracted to play "Great Expectations," "Odd

(*Continued on page* 4)

River Floods Shut Midwest Theatres

St. Louis, July 1.—As floods reached a 103-year high at the St. Louis levee, marquee lights were dark on a half dozen theatres in river towns on the Missouri and Mississippi rivers.

Flood casualties to date, according to local exchanges, include the Star, Hannibal, Mo.; Canton, Canton, Mo.; Morrison, Morrison, Mo.; Hull, Hull, Ill.; and the State, McClure, Ill. The Star and Canton were reported reopened after their first inundation, but whether they again fell victim to later rises is not known.

Other theatres are believed still operating in communities which are still fighting to keep the river from their doors. Included among these are

(*Continued on page* 4)

NY 1st-Runs Strong Despite the Heat; $141,000 for 'Muir'

Majority of New York first-runs, several of them with new pictures, are drawing remarkably good business this week in spite of the heat. In all cases, however, beaches and other resorts presented serious competition over the weekend, although the influx of out-of-towners offset this somewhat.

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," in a first week at the Music Hall, plus a stage show probably will ring up an excellent $141,000. First week of "The Unfaithful," with Vaughn Monroe's orchestra, will give the Strand an

(*Continued on page* 2)

20th-Fox in Deal with Korda for 14 Pictures

$650,000 to Britain From 'Henry V' Here

London, July 1.—A total of $650,000 has been remitted to Britain to date from the United States exhibition of "Henry V", the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, discloses.

The picture is to play a return engagement in London's West End, opening at the Palace on July 6. It is one of the few pictures ever to play the house.

Releasing agreement between Sir Alexander Korda, British producer, and 20th Century-Fox, under which 20th will distribute at least 14 Korda pictures in the next four years, was revealed here yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th-Fox.

Skouras said that the first six pictures to be marketed here would bring $12,000,000 to Great Britain; 20th Century-Fox will handle releasing throughout the Western hemisphere.

At the Korda office here, it was said that British Lion handles Korda distribution in England, London Film Productions handles distribution in the Far East, and Regina Films, in

(*Continued on page* 4)

Para. Partners Favor Selling, NY Court Told

Companies File Reports On Theatre Holdings

Maintaining that the transfer of theatre properties would not be feasible before the U. S. Supreme Court decides the New York anti-trust case, Paramount yesterday reported to New York Federal Court that discussions which it has had with its theatre partners have "indicated" that the latter favor the sale of their exhibition interests to the company, subject to the court's approval.

This, presumably, would be in the event that the high court sustains the New York injunction against holdings by the five distributors of theatre interests between five and 95 per cent.

The company takes the position that in the event its appeal of the New York ruling is successful, dissolution of partnerships would be unnecessary, whereas if the Government wins complete divestiture, which it seeks on appeal, Paramount would be faced with an entirely different situation

(*Continued on page* 4)

ATA-MPTOA Meet Set for July 18-19

The meeting to take up the proposed affiliation of the American Theatres Association with the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America has been postponed to July 18-19 to avoid a conflict with the New Orleans conference of circuit heads with J. Arthur Rank, called by E. V. Richards for July 11-12. The latter two days originally had been set for the ATA-MPTOA session. The post-

(*Continued on page* 2)

To Discuss Prices, Taxes at ITOO Meet

Columbus, O., July 1.—Alleged "exorbitant" admission price demands of distributors is tops on the agenda of business sessions of the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, to be held July 14-16 at the Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point. Other exhibitor problems to be discussed will include state, federal and local

(*Continued on page* 2)

Personal Mention

LOUIS PHILLIPS, Paramount assistant general counsel, MRS. PHILLIPS and TONY C. REDDIN, director of Paramount theatres, advertising and publicity in Great Britain, are among passengers who sail for Europe today on the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount publicity-advertising director, who returned here Monday from a South and Midwest tour, was in Rochester, N. Y., yesterday.

•

NEIL AGNEW, Selznick Releasing Organization president, left here yesterday for a month-long inspection tour of West and Northwest SRO offices.

•

DORE SCHARY, RKO Radio production chief, and PERRY LIEBER, studio publicity manager, are en route here from the Coast.

•

CLINT WEYER, secretary of the National Film Carriers Association, was in New York yesterday from Philadelphia.

•

ADOLPH ZUKOR II is vacationing in Beverly Hills with his family.

Percentage Suits Filed on the Coast

LOS ANGELES, July 1.—Grover L. Smith and Atwater Theatres, Inc., are defendants in each of five percentage suits filed here in Federal Court, by Paramount, RKO, Loew's, Columbia and 20th Century-Fox. Theatres involved are the Roxy, Cosmo, Vogue and Showshop in Glendale, and the Atwater and York in Los Angeles. This is the fourth group of percentage suits on the West Coast, and the second in the Los Angeles area.

The actions, like those in other parts of the country, seek alleged damages for returns on percentage pictures. Attorneys for the plaintiffs in the new suits are Gordon L. Files and Freston and Files, Los Angeles, and Sargoy and Stein, New York.

Nelson Hits Rankin

(*Continued from page* 1)

by Rep. Rankin had been called to his attention and he felt that Rankin "has done this picture and Selznick a grave injustice." Rankin had called the picture "filthy and obscene."

Nelson declared that "Selznick is conceded to be one of the most outstanding and distinguished producers in the business." At every step of the way in the producing of "Duel," the letter continued, Selznick consulted with the MPA and had its assurance that the picture was acceptable. When the picture was finished, Nelson stated, it received a certificate of approval from the Johnston office, a "B" rating from the Legion of Decency, and the approval of various boards of review.

New Screen Method Viewed by Reisman

Changes in the international problems of the industry are seen by Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, as a possible result of the technique employed in "Silence Is Golden," joint RKO Radio-Pathe Cinema production by Rene Clair. In the film, to be distributed here under the title of "Man About Town," the voice of Maurice Chevalier explains in English the story's development. This technique may, says Reisman, "enable us to get into many foreign countries without the expense of dubbing." Reisman conceded, however, that all pictures do not lend to this technique.

Back from a two-month trip abroad, Reisman declared here yesterday that there is a tremendous interest throughout Europe for the development of local industries.

He reported that business is good overseas, with an approximate drop in grosses of only 12 to 15 per cent.

Schaefer, UA Chiefs Hold Sales Meetings

A four-day series of sales discussions revolving around United Artists distribution of Enterprise product began here yesterday between George Schaefer, Enterprise vice-president in charge of distribution, and UA executives. Yesterday's UA participant in discussions was J. J. Unger, general sales manager. Further talks are scheduled between Schaefer and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity director, today, concerning budget appropriations and national campaigns for the entire Enterprise product slate.

Schaefer, who returned to New York from the Coast on Monday, said yesterday that "Arch of Triumph" will be released shortly, and that "The Other Love" and "Body and Soul" have been set for national release on July 15 and Aug. 15, respectively.

Pickford Accepts

(*Continued from page* 1)

tiations and reportedly would boost the cash required to between $7,000,000 and $8,000,000.

Fabian, Eastern circuit operator and president of American Theatres Association, is associated with Serge Semenenko of the First National Bank of Boston in the negotiations. Their bid for Miss Pickford's half interest in United Artists is said to be $7,500,000 to be paid in stock to be issued by the company.

It is reported that Miss Pickford, under the terms she is said to have insisted upon, would retain some authority in the company and could regain her original holdings under provisions governing dividend payments and retirement of the shares to be issued to her.

Neither Miss Pickford nor Fabian would issue a statement yesterday, presumably because of the continuing uncertainties of effecting a final closing by July 10.

Miss Pickford is scheduled to leave here for the Coast today.

Krappman Heads NT Merchandising Unit

LOS ANGELES, July 1.—Andy Krappman has been appointed head of National Theatres' merchandising department, Charles Skouras, National president, announced here today. Krappman, who was in charge of the department's expansion last year, succeeds the late William G. Lyris. Four assistants have been assigned to handle the department's service branches.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

estimated very healthy $65,000. "Ivy" is likely to bring the Criterion about $28,000 in an initial week, which is very good.

"Fiesta," with George Paxton's orchestra and Lena Horne, at the Capitol is on its way to a very sound $72,000 for a first week. "Riff Raff" is doing fair enough with a first week's take of $17,500 at the Palace. "Ramrod" is doing more than adequate business at the Globe, with an estimated $20,000 in its first week. A reissue combination, "South of Pango Pango" and "The Corsican Brothers," should give the Gotham a sound $15,000 in a first week.

The Hollywood is still faring well with "Possessed," with about $18,500 expected in a fifth week. "New Orleans" is strong with $31,000 in a second week at the Winter Garden. "Dear Ruth" and Perry Como are still a big draw at the Paramount, where $85,000 is indicated for a third week. Fourth week of "Miracle on 34th Street" is doing fair enough on a $71,000 gross at the Roxy. "Moss Rose" and Olsen and Johnson on the stage bow in there today.

In a third week of a return engagement, "Duel in the Sun" probably will give the Victoria a handsome $15,500. "Best Years of Our Lives" is good for $24,000 in a 31st week at the Astor. "Henry V" is doing moderately with $15,000 in a fourth week at the Broadway. "Repeat Performance" went into the Rivoli yesterday, after "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" mustered only $10,000, estimated, for a third week.

ITO of Ohio Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

admissions taxes, film rentals, local checkers, increased ASCAP fees and American vs. British films.

Industry spokesmen scheduled to be heard on the convention floor include: Andrew W. Smith Jr., general sales manager, 20th Century-Fox; Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel; Jack Kirsch, Allied president; H. M. Richey, Loew's exhibitor relations director; Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager; David Palfreyman, MPA representative and Sam Shain, 20th-Fox exhibitor relations director. J. Arthur Rank, invited to be principal speaker at the ITO banquet, has wired regrets to P. J. Wood, secretary.

Officers and board members will be elected at the July 15 meeting. Unfinished business will be carried over to Wednesday.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S speech attacking racial discrimination is one of the highlights of current newsreels. Also included are scenes of the Mississippi flood. Gen. Eisenhower's talk on his new job at Columbia University, and sports and other items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 88—President Truman talks on equality for all citizens. Floods in St. Louis at 103-year high. Navy develops new technique for [illegible] planes. Eisenhower speaks on Columbia University job. Rowing regatta. Water skiis. Babe Didrickson Zaharias, golf champ, comes home.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 286 — Big Three in Paris scan Secretary Marshall's plan. Mississippi River flood. Russia gets American oil. President Truman attacks discrimination. Gen. Eisenhower talks on new job. America's marble champ. New woman golf queen: Babe Didrickson Zaharias home.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 89—President Truman urges new action on civil rights. Foreign ministers meet in Paris. Rome greets Mrs. Peron. Russia races to beat cil ban. Harvard sweeps regatta. Babe Didrikson Zaharias comes home.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No 91—President Truman urges civil rights for all. Bus replaces last New York trolley. Babe Didrickson Zaharias home with British cup. Gen. Eisenhower talks on new job at Columbia University. Climbers on Salzburg Mountain in Austria. Betty Jameson wins National Open Golf.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 53. — National security meeting told U. S. must adopt military training. President Truman calls for an end to racial barriers. Townsend pension planners convene on steps of Harvard crew wins. Marble contest in Capitol. French 'Reds' battle police at Paris. Wildwood, N. J. Motorcycle stuntman, rehearsing for thrill-show in France, takes nasty spill.

Jolson Industry Guest At UJA Meet Here

Al Jolson will be honor guest at an emergency luncheon-meeting to be held at the Hotel Astor here on July 15 in an effort to bolster the amusement industry's campaign to raise $2,100,000 in the New York area for the United Jewsh Appeal, Barney Balaban, national chairman of the film division, announced here yesterday.

Jolson, who will fly here from the Coast expressly to attend the meeting, will be the guest of Balaban, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Si Fabian, Matthew Fox, Emil Friedlander, Malcolm Kingsberg, Albert Warner, Sam Rinzler, Richard Rodgers, Billy Rose, Spyros Skouras and Nicholas M. Schenck.

ATA-MPTOA Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

ponement is disclosed here by Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director. New York's Hotel Astor will be the meeting place.

Meanwhile, ATA and MPTOA are completing proposals for a Federal admission tax reduction for submission to the House Ways and Means Committee at the end of this week. A "companion communication," so described here, substantially in agreement with the ATA-MPTOA brief, will be filed by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association.

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N

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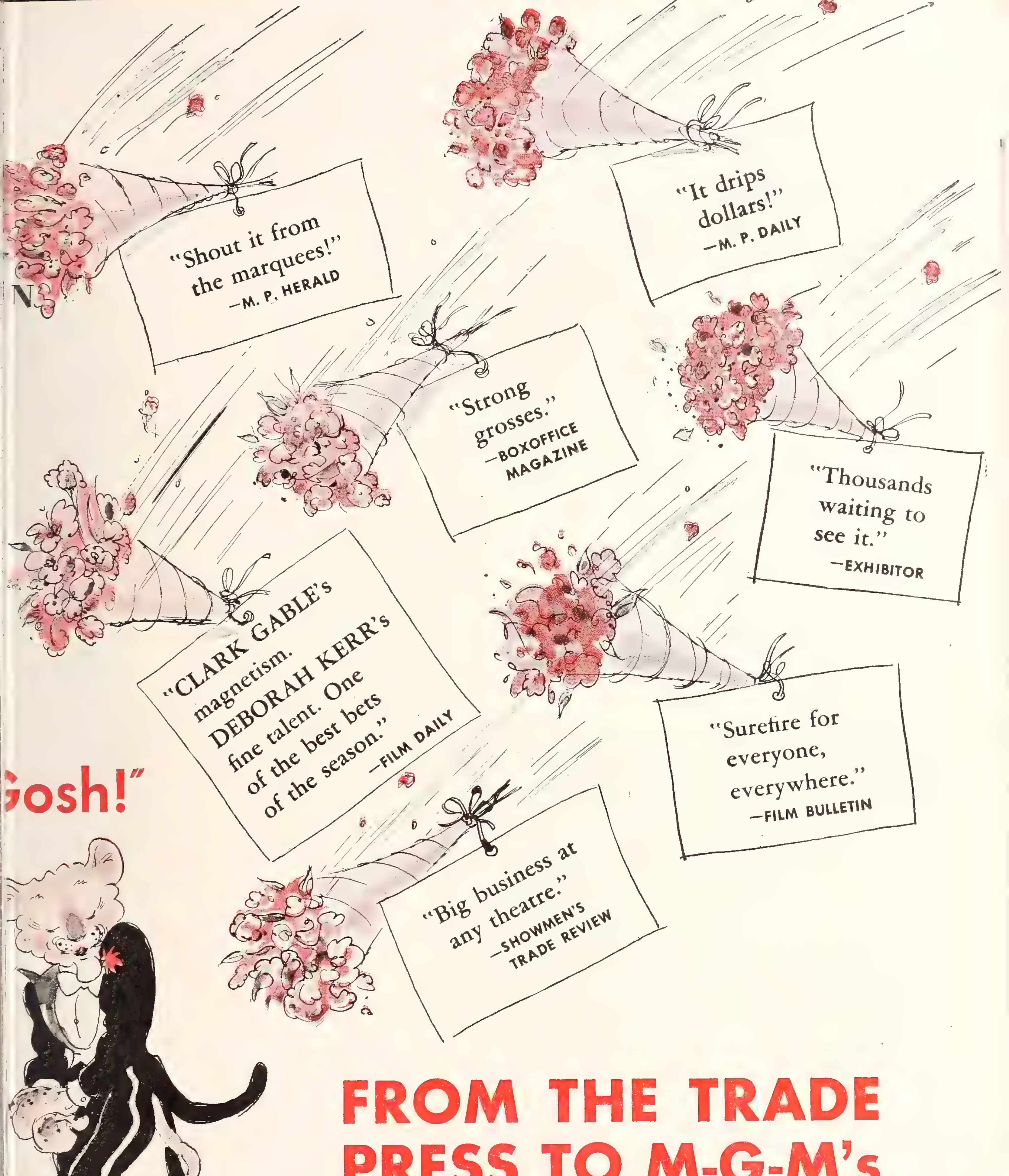

"Shout it from the marquees!"
—M. P. HERALD

"It drips dollars!"
—M. P. DAILY

"Strong grosses."
—BOXOFFICE MAGAZINE

"Thousands waiting to see it."
—EXHIBITOR

"CLARK GABLE'S magnetism. DEBORAH KERR'S fine talent. One of the best bets of the season."
—FILM DAILY

"Surefire for everyone, everywhere."
—FILM BULLETIN

"Big business at any theatre."
—SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

FROM THE TRADE PRESS TO M-G-M's "THE HUCKSTERS"

CLARK GABLE • DEBORAH KERR • Sydney Greenstreet • Adolphe Menjou • Ava Gardner • Keenan Wynn Edward Arnold in "THE HUCKSTERS" • Screen Play by Luther Davis • Adaptation by Edward Chodorov and George Wells • Based on the Novel by Frederic Wakeman • Directed by JACK CONWAY • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR. • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Moments of Fury
— from —
"Desert Fury"
2. THE BETRAYAL
She was so much
like her
mother
HAL WALLIS' Production
In Technicolor . . . From Paramount

Para. Partners

(Continued from page 1)

and would be subject to the risk of "great financial" loss.

Twentieth Century-Fox, RKO and Warners also filed their statements on theatre holdings with the New York court yesterday, reporting few changes in holdings to date, or anticipated before the ultimate disposition of the case. Loew's filed on Monday.

Paramount is the most seriously affected by the injunction against theatre holdings of between five and 95 per cent since it owns 993 houses jointly with independents, six with 20th-Fox, 14 with Loew's and 150 with RKO.

Intricate Corporate Structures

All five companies reported all theatre interests in which they are joined with others all over the country, revealing an abundance of intricacies in corporate structures and suggesting the difficulties which they say would be encountered when and if disentanglement begins.

In some instances agreements on dissolutions of pools could not be made where joint ownership is involved. Typical, in Youngstown, O., Warners has the Warner, the Shea Circuit has the Park, and both share the Paramount ownership. All three are operated jointly. Warners says it advised Shea that each should operate its respective theatre for sole benefit and only the Paramount should be treated as a joint ownership, to be dissolved if necessary. It was said that no agreement could be reached on this.

A similar situation involves Warners and Phil Chakeres, now joined in operating the Ohio, Regent, Fairbanks and State Theatres in Springfield. Chakeres, according to Warners, insists that either he or Warners sell out, one to the other.

Profits Shared in Hollywood

In Hollywood, according to RKO, the Pantages Theatre is owned by an independent and the Hillstreet is owned by RKO. They are operated by respective owners but profits are shared. RKO submits that the theatres are not in substantial competition within the meaning of the decree.

Twentieth Century-Fox's National Theatres reported the dissolution of 30 pooling arrangements and gives an accounting of partial ownership in 50 theatre-operating corporations. Largest among these is a 70 per cent holding in United West Coast, the remaining 30 per cent being held by United Artists Theatres of Cal. The corporation leases and sub-leases theatres of the partners.

Whether the arrangement is to be considered a pool or joint ownership is uncertain, and National asserts that proposals of dissolution cannot be made at this time.

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10,000 UK Studio Jobs Threatened

London, July 1.—T. J. O'Brien, secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, today denounced the week's notice of quitting given by some 255 studio plasters, as irresponsible and selfish, and likely to put 10,000 unionists out of work. The wages and grading agreement to which the plasterers object has not yet been ratified. NATKE will take action to protect other studio workers, it was said, with the plasterers' action, if followed through, threatening a complete production holdup at all studios here.

Nat'l Theatres

(Continued from page 1)

Man Out" and "Stairway to Heaven" in the West Coast National Theatres Circuit which he heads. This was disclosed here yesterday by William Heineman, general sales manager for the J. Arthur Rank unit of Universal-International. The three Rank pictures are already booked into a number of National houses, Heineman said.

Further booking developments stemming from the circuit's agreement, Heineman indicated, are expected to take place following the New Orleans meeting on July 11 between Rank and Paramount theatre partners. Heineman and other Rank Organization and Universal-International executives are scheduled to be present at the New Orleans parley.

Midwest Floods

(Continued from page 1)

the Grafton, Grafton, Ill.; Royal, Valmeyer, Ill.; the Maple, Maplewood Park, Ill., and the Dupo at Dupo, Ill.

No St. Louis or East St. Louis theatres have been affected, although the Park in suburban Valley Park is menaced. A further rise in river crests is unlikely unless there is another torrential rain.

Fabian Consolidates Upstate Theatres

ALBANY, N. Y., July 1.—In a move believed to involve the dissolution of Fabian Theatres-RKO Theatres pooling arrangements, the consolidation of Fabian theatres in Albany, Troy and Schenectady was effected with the filing today of mortgages and deeds with the Albany County clerk. Copia Realty Co., of which Si Fabian is president, and RKO Theatres, headed by Malcolm Kingsberg, gave mortgages totaling $2,700,000.

The consolidation involves the Palace and Grand, Albany, Proctor's in Troy and two Schenectady houses believed to be Proctor's and the Plaza. The deeds cover Albany theatres.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and
Disc Recording Facilities

20th-Fox-Korda

(Continued from page 1)

which Korda has an interest, handles it in France.

"In signing this contract," Skouras said, "officers of 20th Century-Fox were conscious of the necessity, both to England and America, of such a reciprocal arrangement. American dollars gained from the exhibition of these pictures will go to England to replace money taken from that country, which is vital at this time."

Korda will have about three pictures a year for the first three years of the agreement, Skouras continued. As a result of the agreement, 20th Century-Fox will not rebuild its bombed-out studio in London, and will not engage in production in England.

Regarding J. Arthur Rank's reaction to the new deal, since 20th Century-Fox is associated with Rank in the British Gaumont circuit, Skouras said, "Rank is anxious to see dollars get to England, regardless who brings them."

"The Korda pictures will get all the time they can bear throughout this country," Skouras said, adding, though, that "British films will not make inroads on American grosses."

Negotiations for the deal were started some weeks ago by Korda, Joseph M. Schenck, executive production head of the 20th Century-Fox studio, and Darryl F. Zanuck, production vice-president. Final details were worked out here last week by Joseph M. Moskowitz, vice-president and Eastern studio representative, and Hugh Quennell, associate of Korda.

Oscar Wilde's "An Ideal Husband," a Technicolor production starring Paulette Goddard and directed by Korda, is completed and will be the first to be released, in September, under the agreement. It will be followed by Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." Another, untitled, to be directed by Carol Reed, will follow. Reed will also direct a picture starring Cary Grant. Other pictures will include: "Bonnie Prince Charlie" and "I Will Repay."

Bill Would Establish 60-Cent Minimum

WASHINGTON, July 1.—A bill to boost the minimum wage to 60 cents an hour will be reported by a House Labor Committee within two weeks, it is understood.

This was predicted by the subcommittee chairman, Rep. McConnell (R., Pa.).

Weiner Named

(Continued from page 1)

resentative in South Africa for many years, and during World War II served with the Army. Also, Fred S. Gulbransen has been appointed Far Eastern representative for SRO. He was formerly associated with RKO Radio and United Artists in foreign territories. In his new assignment, he will cover New Zealand, Australia and the Philippines, in addition to the Orient. He departed for Manila Monday.

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62. NO. 3 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

New Increase In Theatre Construction

One Northwest Project Calls for Block of 5

A boom in new theatre building and planning across the country has taken on added impetus, with reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents pointing to a number of particularly ambitious projects in the offing.

One of the most aspiring projects to be disclosed is that of the Baehr Brothers circuit, which has plans to build theatres in five Wisconsin and Minnesota cities. First will be a 1,200-seat, $175,000 house slated for Chippewa Falls, Wis. Others planned are for Rice Lake, Rhinelander and Lady-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Universal 13-Week Net is $1,335,875

Universal Pictures disclosed yesterday that consolidated net profits of the company for the 13 weeks ended May 3, 1947, aggregated $1,335,875, after all charges including Federal taxes based on income, as compared with $1,641,899 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

For the 26-week period ended May 3, 1947, net profits totaled $2,092,418, as against $2,576,405 previously.

Dalton Gets Backing Of H. of C. on Levy

London, July 2.—If Great Britain's need for dollars becomes more acute, the House of Commons tonight agreed that Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton must check dollar remittances

(*Continued on page 8*)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Independence Day, a legal holiday.**

Theatre Curb In Rent Act

Washington, July 2.—Housing officials predict that restrictions on theatre and other amusement construction would be tightened slightly as a result of the new rent law, which ended curbs on all other types of construction.

Projects will still be approved on the same grounds as before, they said, but inevitably these standards will be interpreted much more strictly.

They declared that this would be necessary to salvage whatever building materials they could for the housing program in view of the anticipated heavily increased demands from the commercial projects freed by the recent law.

It was also official opinion that the curbs would remain on theatre construction through the end of the year. Congress wants the curbs, they de-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Up Prices to Meet Costs: Schaefer

Increased admissions is the only solution to the problem of high production costs, George Schaefer, Enterprise vice-president in charge of distribution, said here yesterday as he disclosed "Arch of Triumph" will be put into roadshow release by United Artists at advanced prices of 90 cents to $1.25 in mid-October.

Schaefer, who emphasized that his theory of increased admissions applies only to productions budgeted at over $3,500,000, reported that a nationwide opinion survey conducted in behalf of "Arch" by Audience Research result-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Coast Meet Today On Strike's Status

Hollywood, July 2. — The Carpenters' international representative, Joseph Cambiano, will meet here tomorrow with Charles Boren, the Association of Motion Picture Producers' labor chief, to discuss the present status of the Hollywood strike.

A similar meeting, held six weeks ago, ended with agreement to continue discussion at a later date. However, it is considered unlikely that tomorrow's meeting will materially alter the strike picture.

N.Y. Group in ATA MPTOA Tax Plan

New York's Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association yesterday decided to join American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America in their brief setting forth recommendations of admissions tax reductions to be submitted to the House Ways and Means Committee.

A board meeting of the New York group also formally approved the membership application of Universal-International which operates the Park and Winter Garden here.

The appointment of the law firm of Judd and Gurfein as general counsel of MMPTA was announced by the organization's president, Fred Schwartz. In line with this, Schwartz declared: "Exhibitors for some time have required the guidance of men with broad experience" in the legislative as well as legal fields.

Use Motor Boats to Keep Midwest's Prints Moving

Kansas City, July 2.—By taking devious routes and using motor boats at some points, the Exhibitors Film Delivery and Service Corp. has succeeded in keeping prints moving in this area despite flood conditions. A few Kansas City theatres were forced to close in the face of the rising waters.

Theatres in high flood area towns which are completely cut off from surrounding territory, however, have suffered a loss of business up to 50 per cent.

North of Kansas City the waters

(*Continued on page 8*)

Reissues in Europe Termed 'Finished'

"The reissue business in Europe is finished."

That statement comes from Maurice Livingston, vice-president of International Optima Corp., reissue distributors abroad, who returned to New York this week from an extended tour of Europe.

Livingston's explanation of the black reissue outlook: "Europe is saturated with new American product

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Stock Is Up in June After ½-Yr. Sag

General Stocks Had Loss Of 2 Billion in 6 Months

A decline in market value of motion picture shares listed on the New York Stock Exchange appeared to be arrested in June when most issues climbed from their lows of the preceding months.

The shares dropped almost $600,000,000 in market value during the first six months of 1947. This was strictly in line with the drop of the general stock list, which suffered a loss of some two billion dollars in the first half of the year, but showed recoveries from the year's lows as July trading got under way.

Labor uncertainties were the chief cause of the market decline, but with passage of the Taft-Hartley bill over a Presidential veto, a better tone was evident.

Political conditions abroad, how-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sprague Treasurer Of Can. Rank Units

Toronto, July 2.—G. H. Sprague of this city, a newcomer to the film industry, has been appointed treasurer of six companies here which are associated with the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Great Britain. The appointment is a further step in the reorganization of Rank personnel in Canada.

Sprague succeeds George H. Beeston of Toronto who resigned. Companies include: Canadian Odeon, Eagle-Lion of Canada, Queensway Studios, Ltd., Hanson 16mm. Movies, Ltd., and Gaumont Kalee, Ltd., of Toronto.

Congress Unit Sets $12,400,000 Fund

Washington, July 2.——House-Senate conferees agreed today on a $12,400,000 appropriation for the State Department's overseas information program during the coming fiscal year while Secretary of State Marshall told a Senate foreign relations subcommittee that he hoped Congress would pass the Mundt bill this session and not postpone action until January.

The amount set in the conference

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution, vice-president, will leave for the Coast about the middle of next week to confer with HERBERT J. YATES on production and CHARLES P. SKOURAS of National Theatres on a film deal.

•

DOUGLAS J. GRANVILLE, former Warner manager in Chile, is in town for talks with WOLFE COHEN, Warner International vice-president, before assuming a new assignment in the Far East.

•

JUDY CANOVA and her husband, CHESTER ENGLAND, will leave here Saturday by Pan American World Airways clipper for a vacation tour of Latin America.

•

JOSEPH A. CLAIR of the United Artists home office publicity department and ELEANOR NEUWIRTH are to be married tonight at the Riverside Plaza Hotel.

•

EUGEN SHARIN, assistant to SAM SEIDELMAN, Producers Releasing Corp. foreign manager, is in London from New York.

•

HUGH FINDLAY, publicity chief for M-G-M's British studios, and ALFRED JUNGE, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

•

HARRY H. THOMAS, Producers Releasing Corp. president, is back at the studio after a stay of several weeks in New York.

•

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner play-date department, was in Philadelphia yesterday from the home office.

•

ARTHUR KELLY, United Artists director, will leave here today for San Francisco and Hollywood.

•

GASTON DUREAU of Publix-Saenger Theatres, New Orleans, is at the Hotel Astor here.

•

EMERY WISTER, *Charlotte (N. C.) News* film critic, is in Hollywood for a two-week visit.

Murphy, Bernstock in Loew Theatre Shifts

Frank Murphy, veteran Loew's theatre manager, has been assigned by Joseph R. Vogel, in charge of Loew's theatre operations, to manage the State, Newark. Edward Burke, manager of Newark, now vacationing, will receive another assignment upon his return.

Nathan Bernstock, manager Loew's Melba, Brooklyn, has been transferred to Loew's National, in the Bronx, succeeding Harry Rosenbaum, who will be assigned to another theatre.

Fund Reelects Hersholt

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Jean Hersholt has been reelected president of the Motion Picture Relief Fund for the 11th consecutive year.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Business off?
Certainly.
But off what?
About 20 *per cent off* 150 *per cent.*

■ ■

Bill Heineman's revelation that Charlie Skouras, for Fox West Coast Theatres, currently leads the bandwagon of important playing time for J. Arthur Rank product actually is a minor-scale revelation in the light of what will come.

Rank's films may have to demonstrate drawing power to crack the big time, but the five major circuits will make it as easy as they can. This is merely another way of pointing out every possible break will be accorded the Britisher in order to propel him toward the goal of a $2,000,000 return from each member of the chain quintet.

Since it is generally calculated the five circuits mean approximately 55 per cent of the American distributor's revenue, the arithmetic shows Rank stands to gross about $18,000,000 in this market next year.

■ ■

London cable in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported $650,000 had been remitted there from U. S. dates on "Henry V." Factually correct, nevertheless the impression created is quite likely to be false. "Henry," thus far, has grossed about $1,200,000 for Rank, its producer, and UA, its distributor. With a selling cost of 27½ per cent, UA has taken $330,000 for its end, leaving $870,000 for the producer.

Where did the balance of $220,000 go? Probably to New York banks to meet portions of Rank's commitments here.

■ ■

J. Robert Rubin, of course, is one of the top-ranking executives at Loew's. Robert J. Rubin, one-time expert on anti-trust investigation for the Department of Justice and a special aide to the U. S. Attorney General, is now assistant to Donald Nelson, president of SIMPP. One thing leads to another and so to this:

Said J. Robert Rubin to Robert J. Rubin:
Our names are very confusin'.
To avoid an allusion
That we're in collusion
Why don't you change to I. Lubin?

■ ■

Breakup of pools finds Fox West Coast letting go of 11 houses including the Liberty, Spokane and Avalon, Bellingham, Wash. Ted Gamble gets them. He already had theatres in the Pacific Northwest and recently annexed Monarch holdings in Ohio and Pennsylvania thus practically washing both seaboards. But there's lots of expansion room between those seaboards. Gamble seems to be in that kind of a mood.

■ ■

No-Business-Like-Show-Business Note: "The Jolson Story" grossed about $800,000 over the Loew circuit in New York *after* its eight-week run at the Music Hall. It was the biggest attraction the circuit had in its history, with the exception of "Gone with the Wind" and, now latterly, "Duel in the Sun," both of which played at advanced admissions, however. "The Jolson Story," on the other hand, played to more people than "Duel."

■ ■

Advertising keynoter for the New York first-run of "New Orleans" at the Winter Garden pirouettes around a line as pretty as: "When '38 Blocks of Vice and Corruption' Made History."

Now, boys! This is 1947. Let's remember we're supposed to be grown up.

■ ■

Maurice Bergman, adv. dir. for Universal in the East, on a flight of fancy: "I have a farm in Ohio. Why don't we all go there and just grow corn?"

Bob Goldstein, always fast on the draw: "Why go to Ohio?"

■ ■

Oscar Doob, paraphrasing that famous line of Nick Schenck's about good pictures, observes:

"There's nothing wrong with the picture business that a good rainstorm can't cure."

■ ■

Torn between two loves: Marvin Schenck who can't decide whether he's for clear weather which can mean so much to Palisades Park or unclear weather which can mean so much to Loew theatres.

Kelty Transferred

KANSAS CITY, July 2.—J. T. Kelty, former assistant manager of the Orpheum here, has been transferred to Champaign, Ill., as manager of the RKO Orpheum there.

Lady Mountbatten to Col.

Lady Iris Mountbatten, great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria and cousin of King George VI of England, has joined the advertising-publicity staff of Columbia Pictures.

Allvine Quits MPA To Enter Production

Glen Allvine has resigned as New York public relations chief for the Motion Picture Association and secretary of the Eastern Public Information Committee, effective Aug. 1, to enter production, it was announced here yesterday.

It was said that Allvine will produce in partnership with a Hollywood director, that their company is now awaiting certification in Sacramento and a releasing contract already,, cou been signed.

Allvine at one time produced for RKO and subsequently was chairman of the editorial board and story editor at the Paramount studio.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
PAT O'BRIEN · WALTER SLEZAK · ANNE JEFFREYS
in
'RIFF-RAFF'
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Fred MacMURRAY
in
BETTY MacDONALD'S
'THE EGG and I'
IN PERSON
LUBA MALINA
JACK E. LEONARD
Extra!
WIERE BROS.
Plus OTHERS

WILLIAM HOLDEN · JOAN CAULFIELD
in
"Dear Ruth"
with
BILLY DE WOLFE · EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
A Paramount Picture.
IN PERSON
PERRY COMO
LLOYD SHAFFER and his ORCHESTRA
HELEN CARROLL and the SATISFIERS
LARRY STORCH
THE FOUR EVANS
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
32ND WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

Peggy CUMMINS - Victor MATURE
Ethel BARRYMORE
"MOSS ROSE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
PLUS ON STAGE—
OLSEN and JOHNSON
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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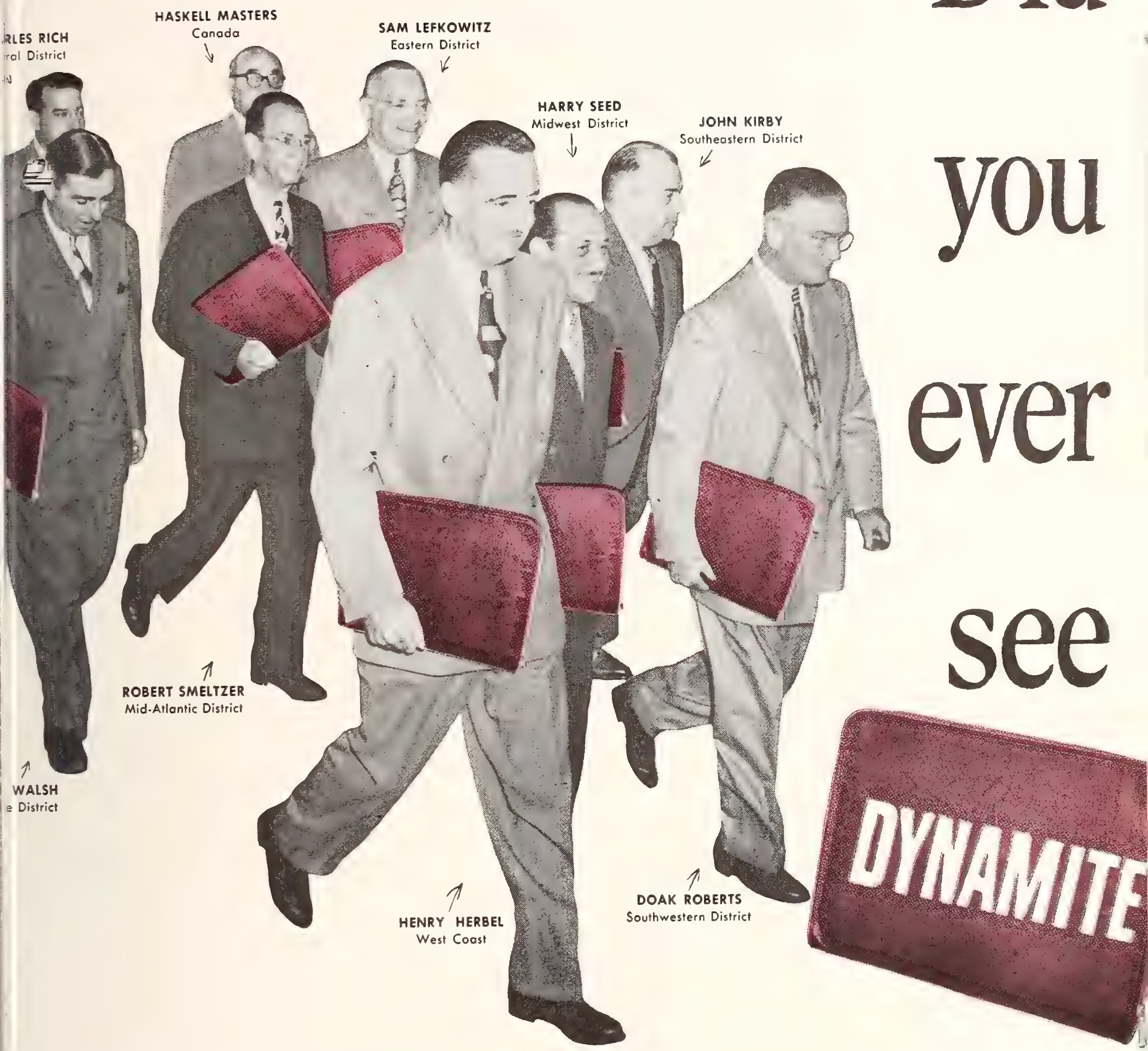
Did you ever see DYNAMITE walking?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HASKELL MASTERS
Canada
SAM LEFKOWITZ
Eastern District
HARRY SEED
Midwest District
JOHN KIRBY
Southeastern District
ROBERT SMELTZER
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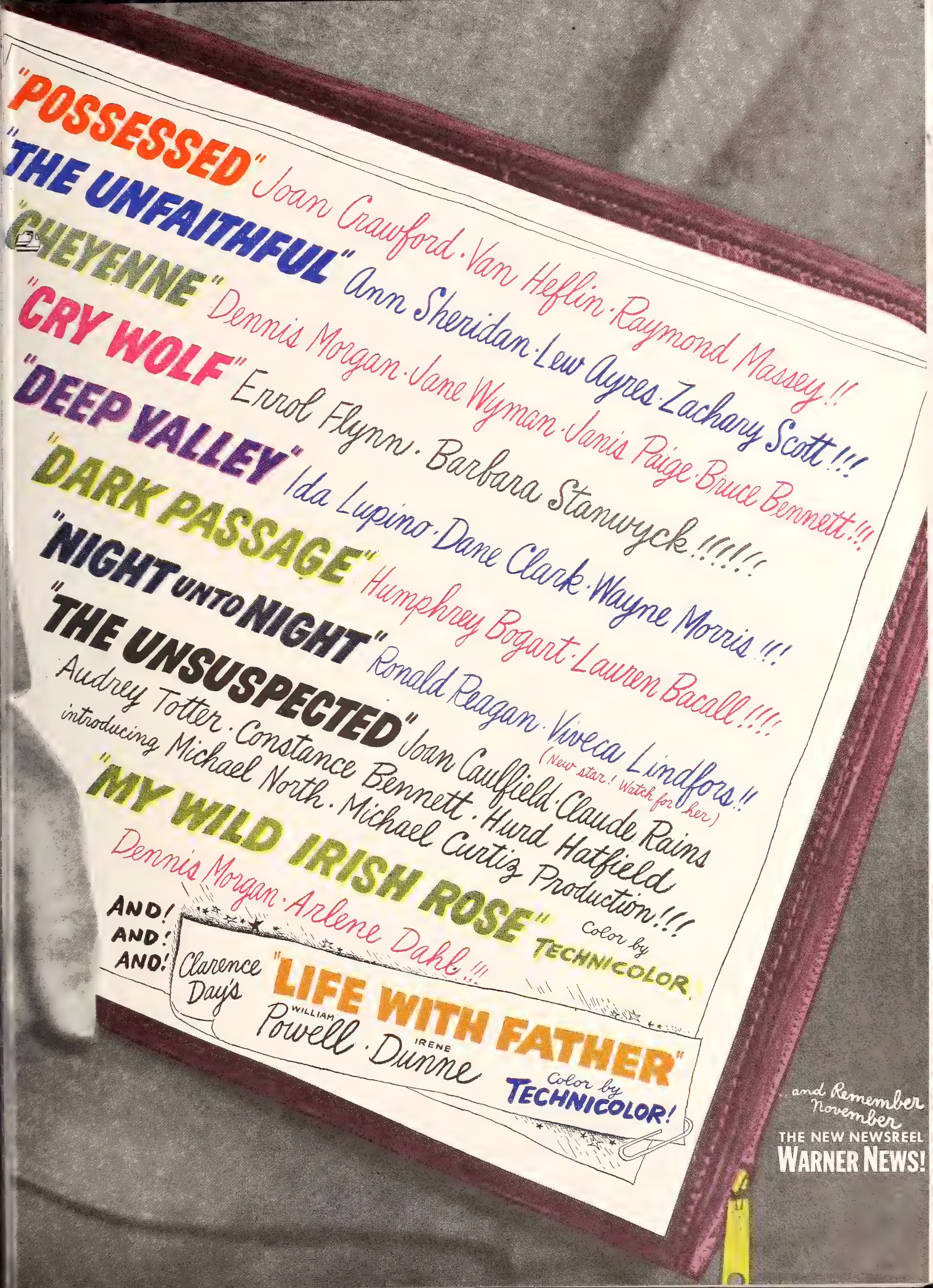
HENRY HERBEL
West Coast
DOAK ROBERTS
Southwestern District
DYNAMITE

These are the district managers of the Warner sales force. They've just had a business meeting. Now they and all their men are on the way with the big news! Welcome them with open arms!

You'll see more Power in the Warner lineup now than you've seen in any product this season or any season before!

JACK L. WARNER, *Executive Producer*



"POSSESSED" Joan Crawford · Van Heflin · Raymond Massey !!

"THE UNFAITHFUL" Ann Sheridan · Lew Ayres · Zachary Scott !!!

"CHEYENNE" Dennis Morgan · Jane Wyman · Janis Paige · Bruce Bennett !!!

"CRY WOLF" Errol Flynn · Barbara Stanwyck !!!!!!

"DEEP VALLEY" Ida Lupino · Dane Clark · Wayne Morris !!!

"DARK PASSAGE" Humphrey Bogart · Lauren Bacall !!!!

"NIGHT UNTO NIGHT" Ronald Reagan · Viveca Lindfors !! (New star! Watch for her)

"THE UNSUSPECTED" Joan Caulfield · Claude Rains
Audrey Totter · Constance Bennett · Hurd Hatfield
introducing Michael North · Michael Curtiz Production !!!

"MY WILD IRISH ROSE" Color by TECHNICOLOR
Dennis Morgan · Arlene Dahl !!!

AND!
AND!
AND! Clarence Day's **"LIFE WITH FATHER"**
WILLIAM Powell · IRENE Dunne
Color by TECHNICOLOR!

...and Remember November
THE NEW NEWSREEL
WARNER NEWS!

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Fiesta" and "The Unfaithful" turned in ranking box office performances among the newcomers to the first-run front. The week was marked by fair weather and no unseasonable counter-attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 2:

CALCUTTA (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $26,600)

CALCUTTA (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $16,100)

FIESTA (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,100)

FIESTA (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,300)

FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $38,000. (Average: $22,600)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,800)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,800)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,900)

IVY (U-I) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,200)

IVY (U-I) — RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,600)

IVY (U-I) — STUDIO (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) — UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,800)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $18,200)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) and HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c $1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $28,600)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) —LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) —UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $13,200)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $4,700)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $14,200)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,400)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00 2nd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $4,700)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,200)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,900)

PHILADELPHIA

"Perils of Pauline" at the Goldman and "The Unfaithful" at the Mastbaum are making a stir at the box-office as business generally continues poor. "The Yearling" and "Best Years" are holding well. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 1-3:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio) — ARCADIA (900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.80) 13th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average of regular prices of 50c-94c): $6,600)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) — STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,700)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $21,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) — STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $27,000)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) — FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) — EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $18,300. (Average: $31,700)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I) — ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $13,800)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB) — KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,200)

THE UNFAITHFUL (W-B) — MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,500)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)

BOSTON

A blistering heat wave and baseball hurt grosses throughout the city. Only one house bettered gross average. "Crossfire" was given a sneak preview at the Memorial in connection with the regular attraction, "Great Expectations." Estimated grosses for the week ended July 2:

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.) — MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,200)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,500)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.) — PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE WEB (U-I) and UNDER THE TONTO RIM (RKO-Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $23,400)

CHICAGO

Loop grosses were uneven this week. A combination of good summer weather and attractive outdoor events slowed up business considerably. Estimated receipts for the week ended June 30-July 1:

BELLS OF SAN ANGELO (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Lionel Hampton and Orch. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $40,000)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) — CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Desi Arnez and Orch. Gross: $56,000. (Average: $59,000)

CHEYENNE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $20,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $16,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,500)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,500)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I) — GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500)

POSSESSED (WB) — STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $30,000)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE WEB (U-I) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $26,000)

Guilds to Study Effect Of Reissues on Jobs

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—The effect of reissues on employment in Hollywood and possible steps toward coping with the problem will be discussed by representatives of all guilds and unions in a meeting called by the Screen Writers Guild for July 9 at Guild headquarters.

A SWG spokesman said that "startling figures," showing the impact of reissues on studio employment, have been compiled and will be submitted as a basis for formulating a program of action.

Evanston, Ill., Bars 'Duel in the Sun'

CHICAGO, July 2.—"Duel In The Sun" has been rejected in Evanston, Illinois.

The picture, originally classified by the Chicago Film Censor Board for "adults only," ran at advanced prices for one week in two first-run Loop theatres simultaneously, and then for four consecutive weeks in only one of the houses. It is currently playing at advanced prices in four out-lying Balaban and Katz second-run theatres.

Columbia, Vidor in Talks

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Columbia has confirmed reports that negotiations are under way for a settlement of differences with Charles Vidor, through establishment of an independent production unit for Columbia release.

Gonsalez Arrives

Cesareo Gonsalez, head of Suevia Films, Madrid, has arrived here with 10 of the leading Spanish films. He is also interested in buying American films.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

WASHINGTON political columnists are reviving talk of a GOP buildup of MPA president Eric Johnston for those national elections in 1948, currently citing Johnston's recent appearance before a Young Republican meeting in the Mi[illegible]t, where he was at the tail end of a [illegible]g list of speakers and the audience was getting bored. So, when Johnston was finally introduced, he jumped up with the opening:

"I have a long prepared speech here, but the hour is late and I know you are tired, so I'm just going to throw the speech away and make a few informal remarks."

With that he dramatically tossed the pages of his speech out over the audience, which they say brought Johnston a wild ovation.

Then the MPA chieftain proceeded to harangue the convention, holding it in rapt attention for an hour.

Amazed at the performance, the presiding officer of the convention painstakingly gathered up the pages of Johnston's scattered speech to keep as a souvenir. He was still more amazed when he read the prepared speech. Johnston had delivered it verbatim.

▽

Whether indicating a sign of the times of the prevailing "leveling-off" process at motion picture box offices, deponent sayeth not, but a holdup gent at the RKO Palace, Cleveland, the other night made off with exactly three dollars from the till and the shoes of Agnes Janda, the cashier. There were other receipts around, but the gunman couldn't find them.

▽

The United States Government in Washington this week interrupted the mighty business of legislating one thing or another in the motion picture and other industries, the control of food, economics and armaments, and the future of the world, to publish a dandy little treatise on "Fishponds for Farms."

▽

Field men of Maurice Bergman, Universal-International's Eastern advertising-promotional manager, worked diligently, we assume, in tying-in U-I's "The Egg and I" in a joint campaign with Kroger, Midwest grocers, at the Palace and Grand theatres in Chicago.

Kroger, it appears, benefited immeasurably, writing to Mr. Bergman's office as follows: "We were very well pleased with the additional sales we enjoyed on our eggs."

▽

***Reader's Digest* of July features what we are told is a piece of inspirational literature, entitled: "How to Avoid Work." Newsstand dealers in and around the sprawling motion picture sector of this summer-blistered area report that the sellout was immediate, absolute, and final.**

YOU'LL FIND 2 NEW STARS

RKO Radio Meeting Begins Here Monday

RKO Radio production and distribution chiefs, foreign managers and independent producers will converge on the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Monday for the company's three-day 16th annual sales meeting. Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager, will preside. The opening day will feature the introduction of Dore Schary, executive vice-president in charge of production.

The following will attend from overseas: Leon Britton, Far Eastern supervisor; Richardo Canals, Colombia manager; George Dawson, director and treasurer of RKO, Ltd., London; David Jones, United Kingdom publicity director; Ralph Doyle, Australasian managing director; Enrique Friedlander, Chile manager; George Kallman, Argentina manager; Jaime Mantilla, Ecuador manager; Hubert McNally, Ireland manager; Jack Osserman, Latin-American supervisor; Bert Reisman, Venezuela manager, and Art Simon of Rio de Janeiro.

Roy Disney, president of Walt Disney Productions, will be on hand for the meeting as will the following Disney executives: Leo F. Samuels, Irving Ludwig, Howard Hein, Charles Levy, John F. Reeder, Vernon C. Caldwell, Gerrit Roelof, Kay Kamen, Chester Feitel, Franklin Waldheim and Arthur Jensen.

Samuel Goldwyn, chairman of the board, and James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will play host to delegates at Ebbetts Field, Brooklyn, on Sunday. Following the game (Brooklyn vs. Boston) there will be a reception and buffet lunch in the Ebbets Field Press Club, during which the RKO guests will meet the ball players.

30c Dividend by RKO

A quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share on common stock was paid on Tuesday to stockholders of record as of June 16, 1947, by the Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp.

Nassour to Produce 4 Films for Allied

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Monogram president Steve Broidy today announced completion of a deal under which Edward Nassour, owner of Nassour Studios, will produce four pictures, with a $5,000,000 budget total, for Allied Artists release, and several films for Monogram, during the next two years. Broidy disclosed that the deal gives Allied and Monogram access to Nassour studios, and therefore the contemplated construction of new stages at Monogram will be postponed until building costs come down.

Broidy also announced a multiple-picture deal with producer Jack Wrather, for both Allied and Monogram release, with "In His Steps" and "Turning Point" scheduled for $1,000,000 budgets.

Film Stock Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

ever, put a damper on speculative enthusiasm, with the result that trading in the first half progressively declined until in June the turnover of 17,482,740 shares on the exchange was the smallest for a June since 1942, when total sales were 7,466,443 shares, and the smallest for any month since September, 1944, when sales amounted to 15,945,982 shares.

Motion picture stocks, activated mainly by the course of the general list, were up one to almost three points from the year's lows at the end of June.

A compilation of the 16 film shares listed on the New York Stock Exchange showed their total market value as of June 30 at $745,994,141. This compared with $1,332,069,876 at the end of 1946 and marked the first time in recent years that valuation of the film shares had dropped below the billion-dollar mark.

Largest net loss in market value of film shares for the first half was the $47,839,734 drop in Paramount, Loew's and Warner Brothers declined $19,763,767 and $18,505,450, respectively, in market value during the six months, but showed fractional recoveries during June over their May closing prices. Warner was helped by an earnings statement showing net income for the six months ended March 1 at $14,013,683, equal to $1.89 a share, compared with $9,125,532, or $1.23 a share, in the six months ended March 2, 1946.

Eastman Kodak common, which was split five-for-one near the end of the first half, was well supported and, compared with its last price of 1946, showed a loss of only one-eighth point, or $309,503 in market value, for the six months.

Some film issues on the curb exchange showed losses of more than a point for the first six months, including Monogram and Technicolor, but a fractional advance was chalked up by Trans-Lux.

Up Prices: Schaefer

(*Continued from page* 1)

ed in "a very healthy indication that the public is willing to pay increased prices if audiences get their money's worth." This, said Schaefer, is a fortunate tally since top productions "cannot be bailed out" of their high costs at the nationwide average admission price of 45 cents.

"Arch," Schaefer said, will open in either New York or Los Angeles, or both. Meanwhile a decision is pending as to whether the picture will be given a "mass playoff" opening such as was accorded "Duel in the Sun" in New York. "Arch" will run about two hours and 18 minutes, he reported.

Holding that independent producers can make pictures "a whole lot cheaper than can the majors," since the former do not have to support the overhead burden which the latter carry, Schaefer maintained that production of "Arch" by a major would have cost much more than the $4,000,000 spent.

ATA Brief on Tax Late for Printer

Washington, July 2. — The American Theatre Association's brief on the theatre amusement tax, supposed to be filed with the House Ways and Means Committee, has missed the first boat.

Committee officials said that the first volume of the committee hearings is on its way to the printer and since ATA's statement hasn't arrived yet, no soap.

Astral to Distribute For F-C in Canada

TORONTO, July 2.—Astral Films of Toronto will distribute new product and reissues for Film Classics throughout Canada, it was announced here today. I. H. Allen, a former Empire-Universal Films executive until a year ago when he organized his own company, is president of Astral, which has six branches in this country.

Releases are scheduled to be available for the new season, it was stated.

Regional Premieres Staged by 20th-Fox

Following its policy of staging regional premieres in key sales areas, 20th Century-Fox launched two of its 1947 productions this week with "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" opening at the Oriental Theatre in Chicago today, and "Bob, Son of Battle," in a four-city Western premiere in Denver, Salt Lake City, Portland and Seattle. One hundred key city openings of the latter follow immediately.

The Chicago opening climaxes a long-range campaign which began months ago. Attending the event are June Haver, Mark Stevens, Martha Stewart, George Jessel and Joe E. Howard. The four-city premiere, which started in Denver Tuesday, also was attended by a contingent of Hollywood personalities.

4 Argentine Films For UA in Brazil

United Artists has concluded a distribution deal with Angel Luis Mentasti, Argentine producer and head of Argentina Sono Film, it was announced yesterday by Walter Gould, UA foreign manager.

Under the contract, UA will release in Brazil four Mentasti productions, all of which will be shown with superimposed Portuguese titles. They are: "La Maja de los Cantares," "Albeniz," "Adios, Pampa Mia," and "Celos." An option to distribute additional Mentasti films is also part of the deal, Gould stated.

FWC Asks Court to Dissolve a Pool

LOS ANGELES, July 2.—Fox West Coast Theatres filed today a Federal Court action against South Side Theatres to enforce dissolution of a pooling arrangement entered into between the former's Fifth Avenue and the latter's Alto theatres for 10 years from April, 1941. The complainant alleged that the defendant declined to dissolve the pool on the contention that such dissolution might violate the Government decree, and asked the court to appoint a receiver for the Alto as a means of clearing up the issue. Judge Ben Harrison appointed a temporary receiver and will decide Monday whether to make the appointment permanent.

Reissues in Europe

(*Continued from page* 1)

with which it is impossible for reissues to compete." European theatres, he said, do not want to show the "old stuff" while they have such easy access to new product.

Livingston, whose company is now distributing Film Classics and Selznick reissues in Europe, said that as a result of dwindling possibilities for reissues in Europe International Optima has launched its own production program at Czechoslovakian and Italian studios and will acquire here only new product for European distribution.

In the latter connection, the company has acquired European distribution rights to Admiral Richard E. Byrd's documentation of his Antarctic expedition, "Discovery." Joseph Auerbach, International Optima president, is now in Europe making preparations for the Czech and Italian productions which will be made in English with American players. Meanwhile, Livingston said, International Optima will invest money in productions scheduled to be made in the U. S. and Canada.

Coast Local Seeks Renewal of Talks

HOLLYWOOD, July 2.—Screen Set Designers' Local No. 1421, which a month ago bolted a meeting with producers when the latter declined to bargain for two classifications claimed by IATSE, today wired its willingness to proceed now with bargaining exclusive of these classifications.

Resumption of negotiations with Painters' Local No. 644, which also bolted a meeting, claiming producers displayed bad faith, is also a prospect.

Suit Dismissal Denied

The joint motion of Walt Disney Productions and Santly Joy, Inc., music publishers, for dismissal of Southern Music Publishing Corp.'s suit against the two, was denied yesterday by New York Federal Court Justice Henry W. Goddard. The suit involves certain rights on songs written by Disney Productions.

40-STAR VARIETY GIRL

Theatre Construction

(*Continued from page* 1)

smith, all in Wisconsin, and Redwood Falls, Minn.

Meanwhile, word has come from Lawton, Okla., that theatre-owner Max Brock is constructing a $100,000 building there to accommodate eight stores and an 800-seat theatre. The theatre is expected to be in operation by December.

Albany, N. Y., will have its first newsreel theatre when building materials are made available to the Schine Circuit. House is scheduled for the street floor of the circuit's Ten Eyck Hotel, with construction expected to get underway in about three months.

California's San Joaquin Valley is slated for a 1,000-seat theatre which will be built by T. and D. Jr., Enterprises. A Lindsay site has been selected. Exeter, Cal., meanwhile, has been marked for another house, also to seat 1,000, under plans set up by Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Peasem.

Construction of a 600-seat theatre in Kannapolis, N. C., by a group of ex-servicemen at a cost of $50,000 is expected to begin in a few weeks. Another North Carolina theatre is planned for Mooresville by Dell Theatre Corp., headed by J. F. White, Jr., T. A. Little and Paul E. Young.

From South Carolina comes word that Cherokee Theatres has acquired a site in Chester for a new house. Another Southern project is being lined up for Brundidge, Ala., where a group of investors is planning to finance a new theatre.

Meanwhile, Tony Merullo has opened his new theatre at Grand Isle, La. In Breaux Bridge, La., Dan Guidry is about to open his newly-constructed Dan Theatre. Bevier Mo., now has a theatre with the opening recently of Clifford Byler's L-c. Aug. 15 has been set as the date for opening of J. T. Ghosen's new theatre in Clinton, Mo.

Mrs. W. T. Cain of Louisa, Ky., is having plans drawn for a new theatre in that town, and A. O. Perkins is prepared to begin construction at an early date on his new theatre in Woodbine, Ky. Dawson Springs, Ky., will have a new theatre under the auspices of Otto Morris.

Other new houses which recently opened are William C. Hunt's Strand in Wildwood, N. J.; Robert Lippert's 400-seat Guild in San Francisco, and the River Theatre in Guerneville, Cal., owned by Dave Williams and J. A. Rock.

Marked activity in the drive-in field continues. Lewis Barton's Odom Drive-in will open near Oklahoma City this month; the cost of the project was $150,000. Work has been started on the new National Drive-in on the outskirts of Columbia, O. Lippert Theatres has opened its new $100,000 Drive-in near San Francisco.

Dalton

(*Continued from page* 1)

through a proposed ad valorem duty on films. The levy would be made upon arrival of the films and would be adjustable later on their actual earnings.

Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, asked for consultation with American film interests and exhibitors, and Dalton promised discussion with interested parties before exercising the levy.

Debate on the finance bill will continue for the next week.

M-G-M TRADE SHOWING

"ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE"

★

NEW YORK—NEW JERSEY

Territories Only

★

MONDAY, JULY 7th

10:30 A. M.

M-G-M SCREEN ROOM

630 NINTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Rent Act Curb

(*Continued from page* 1)

clare, as long as a building material shortage exists, and the shortage will get worse now that commercial construction is unchecked. The power to require permits for amusement projects expires under the present law on Dec. 31.

Under the regulation announced Monday, the standards for theatre project approval will be on the basis of negligible impact on housing, providing an essential community facility, necessary maintenance and repair, or to prevent severe and unusual hardship.

Figures on the amount of commercial construction approved and denied during the last nine months show that little more than one and one-half per cent of all approvals were for amusement and recreational projects, while almost 10 per cent of the denials were in this category.

From Oct. 11, 1946, through June 19 of this year, the Government approved $1.7 billion of non-residential constructions, including $26.5 million of amusement and recreational projects. It denied $902 million, including $91 million of entertainment construction.

About 34 per cent of the construction in the entertainment category are believed to be theatre projects.

Congress Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

bill is about $1,000,000 less than the bill originally passed by the Senate, which included an $800,000 appropriation for the motion picture division, and $3,600,000 less than the amount sought by Marshall as the minimum needed for the program.

Sen. Ball, chairman of the Senate conferees, said they had agreed that broadcasting programs were not to be affected by the cut and that it was up to the State Department to apportion the funds. This would leave it to the department to decide whether any of the cut should be applied to the film section.

Library of Congress Abandons Plea for Film Division Fund

WASHINGTON, July 2.—Library of Congress officials today abandoned their efforts to obtain the full $370,500 originally requested for the motion picture division during the coming year. The House cut this to $85,000.

Funds were to be used to further plans for the Library as a central depository for Government and commercial films and a distributing point for Government films.

Use Motor Boats

(*Continued from page* 1)

are still rising; to the South the flood is subsiding. A number of dikes have given way at various points. Only one theatre here, the Bayer, reported damage. Five feet of water seeped into its basement and rose to cover the first five rows of the orchestra when a flash flood swept into the business section at ten o'clock last evening. Patrons left the house before the waters reached the orchestra and today the theatre reopened as the waters receded. The Mack Theatre at Estley has been closed a week.

Exhibitors Delivery used motor boats to run prints from Boonville to New Franklin, and exhibitors of two other towns were compelled to pick up prints left at other points. The delivery company, meanwhile, took on the handling of prints for more than 30 towns which are under express embargo, and has been leaving prints at route towns while exhibitors had to drive from 10 to 100 miles to pick them up.

Also prints have been flown from Concordia to Belleville, Kansas. Prints for Iowa and Nebraska towns cut off from Omaha or Des Moines were trucked north from Kansas City and picked up by exhibitors.

Circuit Owner R. D. Goldberg Gives Flood Victims Benefit

OMAHA, July 2.—R. D. Goldberg, local circuit owner, has raised several hundred dollars for the flood victims of nearby Cambridge with a special show at his neighborhood theatre, the Dundee.

Rising flood waters, meanwhile, have closed the Elm Theatre in Elm Creek, and the Orleans at Orleans. Flood damage has been sustained by the Empress at Arapahoe, and the Chief at Weeping Water. Many others are said to be damaged but verification cannot be made. Film deliveries are reported back to normal in Eastern Nebraska and Western Iowa.

Flood Closes 2 Theatres

CAMBRIDGE, July 2.—Heavy flood waters have closed indefinitely two theatres here, the Cozy, owned by A. H. Cuming and the Ritz, owned by George Baughman.

Another Re-release from Franchise Holders of
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
Bruce CABOT
Marguerite CHURCHILL
MURDER MOB

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

OKLAHOMA CITY - - TRADE SHOWING

Of Robert and Raymond Hakim's Presentation of

"THE LONG NIGHT"

UPTOWN THEATRE

1212 No. Hudson, Oklahoma City, Okla.

TUESDAY, JULY 8, at 11:00 A.M.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

62. NO. 4 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JULY 7, 1947 TEN CENTS

Theatre Takes Stage Advance During June

15,254 Weekly Average Recorded for Month

Theatre grosses rallied last onth, according to reports on ome 170 key situations received om MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field. The steady ownward trend of business which got derway last February has broken.

Although increased receipts can be tributed, in some measure, to a propitious season, during June theatres various parts of the country met ith stiff competition from circuses, vic celebrations and baseball, and d to contend with gross-hampering oods, heavy rains, record heat and ansit strikes.

The weekly average gross for June se to $15,254 from the year's low $14,695 recorded for the previous onth. Weekly average for June of st year, however, was $17,049. April this year brought $16,292.

Last month's first week stood out as

(Continued on page 7)

Information Funds Bill to White House

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Congress on ursday approved and sent to the hite House a bill appropriating $12,0,000 for the State Department's erseas information program.

The Senate originally passed a 3,400,000 appropriation, including 00,000 for the film section, and the nferees, in trimming this by $1,0,000 did not specify where the cuts ere to be made, except that the oadcast program was not to be cut.

Meanwhile, a Senate foreign relans subcommittee planned to report version of the House-approved undt bill, authorizing the program, rly this week.

Sen. Smith, chairman of the group, id he would study the Department's quest for an additional $3,600,000

(Continued on page 7)

0 Coast Unionists ile 'Conspiracy' Suit

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Thirty members of the striking studio Carpenters' ion late Thursday filed a Federal urt suit for $28,000,000 against TSE, major producers, and the sociation of Motion Picture Pro-

(Continued on page 7)

Paramount, 20th Albany Sales Said On Guarantee Basis

ALBANY, July 6.—Sales of pictures on a "high guarantee" instead of percentage basis is said to be increasing in the Albany zone by 20th Century-Fox and Paramount. The companies, at the direction of home offices, are offering many situations new product on a fixed guarantee, figured on assaying the top business done by their films in these theatres in the past. Exhibitors then can make whatever profit is possible without the distributors cutting in.

A series of strong summer releases is said in film row to be making possible a large number of such guarantee deals.

20th-Fox Begins 3 Sales Meets Today

The first of a series of three 20th Century-Fox regional sales meetings opens today at the Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee.

It will be followed by a meeting in New Orleans on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at the Roosevelt Hotel there, and by a meeting at the Carlton Hotel in Washington on July 17 and 18.

Home office officials who will be

(Continued on page 7)

To Use Film in War Trophy Safety Drive

Washington, July 6.—The Treasury, Navy and the War Department will start production soon on a film to be used in a nation-wide drive to deactivate war trophies, according to the War Department's pictorial section.

Production is expected to start within a few weeks on the film, which will be for general or 16-mm. release.

Authors Group Hits Authority Project

The American Authors Authority plan has been found lacking on several counts by the licensing committee appointed here by the Dramatists Guild, the Authors Guild and the Radio Writers Guild of the Authors League of America, Inc.

While the committee "recognizes the merit of some of the announced objectives so far as writers' problems are concerned," it finds that "many of the important objectives proposed have already been accomplished and that the others are the established ones of the Authors League and of respective guilds." Accomplishment of these objectives belongs within the structure of the League, the committee holds.

16th Annual RKO Radio Sales Meet Opens Today

Some 450 delegates from all parts of the United States, Canada and many foreign countries will attend RKO Radio's 16th annual sales meeting which opens here today at the Waldorf-Astoria with Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager, presiding.

Robert Mochrie

Ned S. Depinet, executive vice-president and vice-chairman of the board of Radio-Keith-Orpheum will open the business proceedings at 11:30 A.M. This will follow the annual roll call by A. A. Schubart, manager of exchange oper-

(Continued on page 7)

UA Sales Conference To Begin Tomorrow

United Artists' three-day sales conference of district managers will begin here tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria, with J. J. Unger, general sales manager, conducting the sessions. Assisting Unger will be Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager, and Maury Orr, Western sales manager.

Those expected to attend include George J. Schaefer, representing Enterprise Studios; Sam Dembow, Jr., representing Federal Films; Budd Rogers, representing Seymour Nebenzal and Charles R. Rogers; Harold Auten, representing J. Arthur Rank; Harry L. Gold, representing Hughes Productions; David E. Weshner, representing Bing Crosby Producers and Sam Coslow; Arthur W. Kelly, representing Charles Chaplin; Grace

(Continued on page 7)

Over 2 Million To RKO in Fabian Split

Deal Gives Latter Five Theatres in Upstate N.Y.

RKO Theatres relinquished its entire interests in five upstate New York houses in the transaction with Fabian Theatres which brought RKO in excess of $2,000,000, Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, revealed at the weekend. Divestiture of the holdings was in compliance with the New York Federal Court's anti-trust decree outlawing the profits participation involved in the arrangement, Kingsberg said.

Fabian had been operator of all five. RKO owned and leased to Fabian the Grand, Albany; Proctor's, Troy and Proctor's, Schenectady. Fabian owns the Palace, Albany, and Plaza, Schenectady. RKO had both on lease and in turn sub-leased them back to Fabian.

RKO's participation was in the form of rentals and a percentage of profits.

Equitable Life Assurance Society financed the deal for Fabian, a spokesman for the latter said.

Report Mayfair As First Run for 20th

Brandt's Mayfair Theatre is slated to become Times Square's newest first run house on Aug. 14 when it will inaugurate a policy of sharing top-flight 20th Century-Fox product with the Roxy, according to Broadway reports.

First three pictures understood to

(Continued on page 7)

Majors' Suit Charges Falsified Reports

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Charging falsified reports of receipts for six Los Angeles and Glendale theatres over a six-year period, Columbia, Paramount, RKO Radio, Loew's and 20th Century-Fox have filed a Federal court suit against Grover L. Smith and Atwater Theatres, Inc. The complainants ask the court to institute a check of the defendant's books

2 Reviews Today

"Dragnet" is reviewed on page 3; "The Romance of Rosy Ridge" on page 6.

Personal Mention

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, is in Jacksonville, Fla.

•

Nathan E. Goldstein, owner of the Arcade Theatre, Springfield, Mass., and Mrs. Goldstein flew to London over the weekend. They will attend the wedding of their son, Joseph, to Sonja Lambek of London on Aug. 3.

•

Diane Rita Kalmenson, daughter of Ben Kalmenson, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and Mrs. Kalmenson, was married here yesterday to Burton S. Levine of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

•

Maurice N. Wolf, assistant to H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, who is in Boston from the West Coast is due here on Thursday.

•

Jeraldine Cooper of the Paramount exploitation department here, Milton Mohr, home office publicist and Frances Weil, assistant to George Harvey, press book editor, are on vacation.

•

E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Universal-International vice-president and general sales chief William A. Scully, is due back here July 14 from Detroit and Chicago.

•

Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor and public relations director, and his family will spend the summer at Westport, Conn.

•

G. R. Crane, apparatus design engineer of Western Electric's electrical research products division, is in town from the Coast.

•

Nathan Levinson, Warner studio sound chief, returned to the Coast over the weekend from New York.

•

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production vice-president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

Claud Morris, Selznick Releasing Organization exploitation manager, is in Detroit from New York.

•

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity director, was in Canada over the weekend.

•

Phil Friedman, Warner casting head, has returned to the studio from New York and Florida.

•

George Sharf, of M-G-M's legal department, will leave New York today for a week's stay in Cincinnati.

•

William Pizor, Screen Guild foreign sales manager, is in California from New York.

•

James Allen, head of The Warner News, is back here from the Coast.

•

Sam Marx, M-G-M producer, is vacationing at Cape Cod, Mass.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ABRAM F. MYERS, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, at the recent Atlantic City convention of New Jersey Allied assured this department that Allied's failure thus far to participate in the efforts which have been made and are being made to obtain a reduction of the Federal wartime admission tax is not indicative of any Allied disinterest in the subject or unwillingness on its part to cooperate with other organizations.

Allied, Myers said, was assured by key legislators last spring that action by Congress on the admission tax was out of the question at the present session. The organization, accordingly, decided to use the extra time (between then and the next session of Congress) to further determine the position of its affiliated units on the subject and to better prepare its case for the decisive hearings to come.

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With Congress scheduled to adjourn in a few weeks it appears certain at this time that no action on the admission tax will be taken during this session, as Allied was advised earlier.

Myers observed that at least three regional units in the Allied fold are not certain that a reduction of the Federal admission tax at this time would be propitious for them. They fear that such action would be followed immediately by new or increased state taxation on theatres by revenue-hungry legislatures in their areas. This danger, they believe, could be materially lessened by next autumn or winter, should Congress act favorably on reduction of the Federal admission tax then.

What impresses as the important thing is the Allied leader's assurance that the organization is not unwilling to join with others in a common cause, as many believed when Allied failed to appear with Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association at the recent hearings on the tax in Washington. The difference in viewpoint is not over what needs to be done, but when is the best time to do it.

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The continuing threat of imposition of increased theatre music taxes by Ascap is another area of common interest to exhibition and the divergent methods of meeting it in evidence at this time no doubt are mighty pleasing for Ascap to contemplate. No fewer than a half-dozen exhibitor organizations now are engaged in or are studying legal actions against the Society.

These are actions of dubious value and which, if successful, will be long in grinding their way through the courts. Exhibitors may be paying increased music taxes long before such actions are adjudicated.

What is needed is unified exhibitor action and immediate expert counsel. Unity should not be difficult to attain on such a matter.

As for expert counsel, this department suggests for exhibitor consideration the name of E. C. Mills, the former general manager of Ascap, associated with the Society for 25 years, and formerly identified with both exhibition and distribution. Presently an industrial counselor in New York, it is not unlikely that his intimate knowledge of the whole situation and his unparalleled experience could be enlisted in exhibition's cause, providing exhibition itself is able to achieve sufficient unity to give effect to Mills' counsel.

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In radio and music pastures it seems to be generally taken for granted that the National Association of Broadcasters and its satellite, Broadcast Music, Inc., were pretty much responsible for forcing the hand of the Department of Justice in the filing of the recent cartel action against Ascap, which coincided with Ascap's resignation from the International Confederation of Authors & Composers Societies.

It so happens that broadcasters' nine-year contract with Ascap will be up for renewal in 1949. If there is disagreement on Ascap's rates, the matter will be arbitrated, according to contract provisions.

Obviously, the broadcasters will be in a favorable position if they are able to tell an arbitrator then that Ascap's rates should be lowered inasmuch as its catalogue no longer includes the foreign music heretofore obtained through the International Confederation.

Unified organization, not unattainable to exhibition, makes possible aggressive action of that kind, eliminating much of the necessity for a constant defensive.

Newsreel Parade

AMONG the newsreel highlights of the current release are Spain's ovation to Mrs. Peron, the editors on their return from their world flight and the aftermath of the Mississippi River flood. Human interest items and sports round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 89—Ai[illegible] completes round-world flight of newspaper heads. Aviation: First jet bomber. Argentina's first lady, Eva Peron, hailed in Europe. First horseman to cross Royal Gorge Bridge, highest in the world. Connie Mack returns to Meriden, Conn. Motorcycle thrills at the Palisades. Junior rodeo champs. Boy billiard wizard.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 287—First films of Spain's ovation to wife of Peron. Hunger stalks Germany. Editors end world flight. Latest flood disaster films. Art inspires new hair-dos. Boy billiard wizard. Teen-age buckaroos.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 90—First pictures of Franco greeting Mrs. Peron. Sculptor uses forest for studio. France: freed Germans recruited as labor force. Tribute to Mr. Baseball (Connie Mack).

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 92—Mississippi floods. Students sail for Europe. New jet-bomber. Motorcyclist mad whirl. Dutch herring fleet. Rocket mail. Texas City restoration.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 53—Europe greets wife of Argentina's president. Six-engine jet bomber. President Truman honors Dean Acheson. Dutch herring fleet. French bathing beauties. Soap-box derby at Prospect Park. Kids boxing.

3 More Legislatures Close Their Sessions

Washington, July 6.—Three more state legislatures have adjourned, leaving three still in session and one, Arizona, in special session, according to John Bryson, legislative assistant to Eric Johnston.

The Illinois legislature, before adjourning, passed a bill enabling counties to impose a license fee on drive-in theatres. Censorship and tax bills were killed in committee.

Massachusetts and New Hampshire adjourned, passing no legislation which affected the industry.

Adjournment is expected soon in Alabama, but there is no indication of when Wisconsin will go out, Bryson said. Missouri is in recess until July 14.

Fleitman Administers E-L Foreign Dept.

George Fleitman, comptroller of Producers Releasing Corp. since 1944, has left that company to become administrative head of Eagle-Lion's foreign department, Sam L. Seidelman, E-L foreign department chief, announced at the weekend.

E-L's Fisher Promoted

Toronto, July 6.—Frank H. Fisher, general sales manager of Eagle-Lion of Canada, Ltd., will become general manager of that company, effective July 14, it was announced by J. Earl Lawson, head of the J. Arthur Rank interests in Canada. He succeeds A. J. Laurie, as reported in Motion Picture Daily last Tuesday.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays. Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coming Events

Today—Opening of RKO Radio annual sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York. Runs through July 9.

Today—Second session of Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States and the Mississippi Theatre Owners joint meeting to discuss consolidation of both organizations, Biloxi, Miss. Closes tomorrow.

July 8-10—United Artists district managers' sales conference, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

July 11—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners annual election of directors, Louisville.

July 14-16 — Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio annual convention, Breakers Hotel, Cedar Point, O.

July 15—Independent Theatre Owners of Washington, North Idaho and Alaska annual summer meeting, Washington Hotel, Seattle.

July 15-17 — Convention of Fabian Theatres Corp., Hotel Astor, New York.

July 17-19—Monogram-Allied Artists national convention, Oklahoma City.

July 31-August 2—Warner Brothers sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

U.S. Library Selects Annual Film Group

WASHINGTON, July 6.—The Library of Congress has selected for its collection 132 feature films, 176 shorts and all of the newsreels and non-theatrical subjects it examined.

The annual selection was made after examination of 468 feature-length films, 349 short subjects, 531 newsreels and 299 non-theatrical films, copyrighted during the period, Jan. 1, 1946, to Jan. 1, 1947.

The Library selects those films which most faithfully record the contemporary life, tastes and preferences of the American people. The Museum of Modern Art selected the films for the Library's archives in 1942, 1943 and 1944. Last year, the Library began its own examination and selection, and selected some 96 titles, totaling 2,074 reels.

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Rep. Sol Bloom has appealed to the Senate appropriations committee to increase the funds for the Library of Congress motion picture unit.

The House granted only $85,000 of the $370,500 requested. He warned the committee that priceless films were being lost through deterioration due to the inadequate funds granted the Library.

Women May Work After 10 P.M. in Ohio

COLUMBUS, July 6. — Governor Herbert has signed the Kowalk bill, under which theatres and other amusement places may employ women over 21 as ticket sellers after 10 P.M.

The new law does not extend the weekly hours of labor permitted. Women and minors are still limited to 45 hours a week.

Review

"Dragnet"

(Screen Guild) *Hollywood, July 6*

ALTHOUGH this is another in the recent steady flow of sleuth and mystery melodramas from Hollywood, one which follows the stalk and skulk book of rules to the last exclamation point, even unto a dumb dick for comedy moments, it is nevertheless a compact little packet of thrills and suspense that will please. Its paying and playing power is also enhanced by the comeback to the screen of Henry Wilcoxon and Mary Brian in the lead roles, with performances undimmed by their absence.

Their experience, as well as that of independent producer Maurice Conn, also author of the original story, and the work of Director Leslie Goodwins give it the needed lift over the pitfalls encountered so often by this type of screenplay.

Promising talent as a trouper of solid rank is revealed by young Douglas Blackley as the detective lieutenant. Douglas Dumbrille in the heavy role as jewel thief and killer turns a fine, experienced hand to his acting chore, with Virginia Dale, Maxine Semon, Don Harvey, Ralph Dunn, Bert Conway, Paul Newlan and Alan Nixon carrying their weight nicely in support roles.

It is a dark o' the moon hunt for international jewel thieves who have smuggled a rich haul of stolen gems out of England to this country, with Wilcoxon joining the chase as a Scotland Yard inspector. The shifts and twists of the chase bring one killing and almost wipe out Wilcoxon until he brings about a triumphant and romantic climax for himself.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

W. J. McG.

Chi. Censors Viewed 108 Films in June

CHICAGO, July 6.—The Chicago Film Censor Board examined 108 motion pictures during the month of June. Among them were: Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," Dezel's "Murder In Reverse," and "Frenzy," PRC's "Killer At Large," "The Ring," a Bohemian film, and Mexico's Clasa productions, "Sing Clearly," "Our Mother" and "The Night and You," classified for "adults only."

The board rejected three pictures, "The Escort Girl," by Dezel; Clasa's "The Perverted Woman" and Film Classics', "The Patient Vanishes."

Legion Classifies 8 Additional Pictures

Three of eight films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I. They are: Columbia's "Pacific Adventure," and RKO Radio's "Seven Keys to Baldpate" and "Under the Tonto Rim."

The following were rated A-II: "Brute Force," Universal-International; "The Crimson Key," 20th Century-Fox; "The Hucksters," M-G-M; "The Millerson Case," Columbia, and "Shop Girls of Paris" (French), Mage Films.

Governor To Attend Mono.-AA Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Governor Davis of Louisiana has accepted the invitation of Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, to attend the companies' national convention in Oklahoma City, July 17-19.

The governor will also attend the world premiere of "Black Gold," to be held at the Warner Midwest Theatre on July 16. A screen version of the governor's career was recently completed by Monogram and is scheduled as one of its first releases on the 1947-48 program.

Cinecolor Dividend

HOLLYWOOD, July 6.—Cinecolor has declared a 12½-cent dividend, payable Sept. 15 on common stock held as of Aug. 30, A. Pan Blumenthal, chairman of the board, has announced. He also announced the election of John D. Kerr, president of the American Fruit Growers Association, to the board.

Flexer, Drive-In Head, In Production Deal

MEMPHIS, July 6.—A deal with Leonard Levinson, film and radio writer, for production of a series of color cartoons, has been announced by David Flexer, theatre circuit owner, who has just returned from Hollywood.

Flexer said that the cartoons will be comic travelogs in imaginary countries. Ansco, new color process, will be used.

Meanwhile, Flexer reported progress in the building of his nationwide circuit of open air theatres, saying that sites had been selected in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Milwaukee and a mid-West city not named at this time.

Flexer said both the drive-ins and the new picture enterprise will have New York headquarters. Flexer plans to be in New York this week.

MGM 'Huckster' Drive Reaching 100 Cities

With "The Hucksters" scheduled to open July 16 and 17 in key runs throughout the country, M-G-M has launched an advance newspaper campaign in more than 100 cities, the company has announced. A series of nine ads totaling 1,500 lines are to be placed in key town newspapers, while national and fan magazines as well as radio spot announcements and promotional tie-ups are also covered by the drive.

This campaign, which includes among the tie-ups arrangements with libraries and bookshops on the special edition of the Frederic Wakeman novel and plugging the film's song, is under the supervision of Howard Dietz, vice-president and advertising-publicity director, and Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager.

Bell Resigns Post

WASHINGTON, July 6.—J. Raymond Bell has resigned as director of advertising and public relations for Capital Airlines (Pennsylvania-Central Airlines Corp.), a position he held for nearly five years. Bell, who was formerly with M-G-M's home office publicity staff, has not announced his future plans.

Film Firms Fail to Find New Offices

Scores of industry organizations which have received notices to vacate office quarters in two film buildings here, have failed to find new space. Their plight serves to reemphasize the long-standing need for additional film company office space in New York City.

Notices to vacate last week had been received by practically all tenants of the 1600 Broadway and 723 Seventh Ave. buildings. Loew's purchased the former for use as headquarters for its now scattered international departments, and an industrial firm bought the Seventh Ave. building.

While July 1 was the deadline for vacating both buildings, it is expected tenants will not move out for some time because they cannot find space elsewhere.

Tenants at 1600 Broadway include: Arcade Films, Bonded Film Storage, Brandon Films, Julien Bryan Productions, Casanave Pictures, Pat Casey Enterprises, C. and F. Theatres, Comerford-Publix Theatres, Criterion Pictures, Clyde Elliott Productions, Fawcett Publications, Fred Astaire Dance Studio, Film Library, Film Rights Export, French Motion Picture Division, Garrison Films, General Films, International Film Foundation, Ideal Pictures, Jay Emanuel Publications, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Preview Theatre, Producers Laboratories, 16mm Pictures, Inc., Theatre Supply Co., United Screen, Telenews, Picture Scores Co., and others.

Located in the Seventh Ave. building are: Ace Pictures, Ampropa Films, Artkino, Atlas Film, C. and G. Film Effects, Capital Pictures, Cosmopolitan, Crescent, Excelsior, Film Shows, Fistic Film, Jewish-American Films, Jubilee Films, M-G-M International (which will move to 1600 Broadway), Mercury Laboratories, Miniature Film Supply, Post Pictures, Protex Film, Puritan, Screenart, Screen Guild, Soundfilm, Standard Film Processing, Toddy Pictures, Travelcade Films, Trinity Pictures, and others.

Republic 13-Week Net Is $311,583

For the 13 weeks ended April 26, 1947, Republic Pictures Corp. and its subsidiaries report a net profit of $519,305.63 before Federal tax provision, estimated Federal normal and surtaxes of $207,722.25, or a net after taxes of $311,583.38.

Thursday Is D(rink) Day

Thursday promises to be a banner day for industry lushes in New York. Vanguard Films opens the bar on the "Portrait of Jennie" stage at the RKO Pathe Studio here for Joseph Cotten and his guests that afternoon while, concurrently, Universal-International and RKO put on a joint cocktail party at the Hampshire House for John Mills, star of "Great Expectations" and "So Well Remembered."

New PRC Salesman

Robert J. Wells has been named salesman in the Seattle branch of Producers Releasing Corp., where he will work under branch manager Wallace Rucker, it was announced by Ralph H. Clark, general sales manager.

"A NATURAL in the full meaning of the term . . . Scored unmistakable HIT at the preview."
—*M. P. HERALD*

"One of the most JOYFUL and REFRESHING comedies in many months . . . A theatre playing it will have to post a smallpox sign to keep from doing capacity business."

—*BOXOFFICE*

"Broad farce slated for strong reception . . . Will BRIGHTEN BOXOFFICES in all situations."
—*VARIETY*

"SOMETHING SPECIAL in the comedy line . . . A natural for all types of audiences and localities."
—*M. P. DAILY*

"Should turn out to be one of the TOP COMEDIES of the season . . . A film that the entire family must see."

—*SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW*

"HAPPY DAYS at the boxoffice . . . entertaining comedy should get the dough."
—*THE EXHIBITOR*

"BIG-TIME ENTERTAINMENT . . . Bound to evoke favorable reaction . . . Hefty boxoffice appeal."

—*THE INDEPENDENT*

"A happy, giddy show for TOP GROSSES."
—*FILM BULLETIN*

"A made-to-order MONEY PICTURE."

—*HOLLYWOOD REPORTER*

"Will line funseekers up at the wickets FOR BLOCKS."
—*DAILY VARIETY*

When Ca
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BIG NATIONAL AD CAMPAIGN

Full coverage in Life—Look—Saturday Evening Post—Collier's—Ladies' Home Journal—Cosmopolitan—American—Redbook—True Story—Seventeen and Fan Magazines . . . Color Comic Sections of 107 important Sunday newspapers . . . TOTAL CIRCULATION, 121,337,596.

ings that Doorbell...! THE LAUGHS

ING OUT FROM COAST TO COAST!!!

RKO
PRESENTS

CARY **GRANT** · MYRNA **LOY** · SHIRLEY **TEMPLE**

IN

Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer

with RUDY VALLEE · RAY COLLINS · HARRY DAVENPORT · JOHNNY SANDS

A **DORE SCHARY** PRODUCTION · Directed by IRVING REIS · Original Story and Screenplay by Sidney Sheldon

RKO RADIO PICTURES

CITY MUSIC HALL ATTRACTION!

Slight Rise in Production as 7 Films Start

HOLLYWOOD, July 6. — Production was increased by two pictures over the previous week, from 45 to 47, with seven new films starting while five were sent to cutting rooms. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "The Strawberry Roan," with Gene Autry, Gloria Henry, Jack Holt, Dick Jones. "Six-Gun Law," with Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Nancy Saunders and Paul Campbell.
Finished: "When a Girl's Beautiful," "I Love Trouble" (Cornell).
Shooting: "The Mating of Minnie," "It Had to Be You."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Adventures of Casanova."

Enterprise

Shooting: "They Passed This Way."

Goldwyn

Shooting: "That's Life."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Virtuous," "The High Wall," "Killer McCoy," "On an Island with You," "If Winter Comes," "Cass Timberlane," "The Kissing Bandit."

Paramount

Shooting: "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "Dream Girl."

PRC

Finished: "Check Your Guns."
Shooting: "Blonde Savage."

Republic

Started: "Macbeth" (Feldman-Welles), with Orson Welles, Edgar Barrier, Jeanette Nolan, Erskine Sanford, Daniel O'Herlihy, Roddy McDowall, Alan Napier, John Dierkes and Keene Curtis. "Under Colorado Skies," with Monte Hale, Adrian Booth, Foy Willing's Riders of the Purple Sage.
Shooting: "The Fabulous Texan," "The Red Pony."

RKO Radio

Started: "Your Red Wagon," with Cathy O'Donnell, Farley Granger, Howard da Silva, Jay C. Flippen, Helen Craig, William Phipps, Jim Nolan, Art Smith, Harry Harvey.
Finished: "Mourning Becomes Electra."
Shooting: "I Remember Mama," "Return of the Bad Men."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Started: "Daisy Kenyon," with Joan Crawford, Dana Andrews, Henry Fonda, Peggy Ann Garner, Martha Stewart, Ruth Warrick, John Marshall.

Shooting: "Gentleman's Agreement," "Foxes of Harrow," "Off to Buffalo," "Nightmare Alley," "Green Grass of Wyoming," "Roses Are Red" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life," "Sleep My Love."

Universal-International

Started: "The Senator Was Indiscreet," with William Powell, Ella Raines, Peter Lind Hayes, Arlene Whelan, Ray Collins.
Finished: "Wistful Widow of Wagon Gap."
Shooting: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "Tap Roots" (Wanger-Marshall), "Imagination" (Kanin), "Black Bart, Highwayman," "The Exile," "Ride the Pink Horse."

Warners

Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Romance in High C" (Curitz), "Need for Each Other," "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Ever the Beginning," "Silver River."

Review

"The Romance of Rosy Ridge"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

THE presence of Van Johnson in a film is in itself sufficient attraction for large audiences. But here M-G-M presents to the exploitation-conscious showman much more than a marquee name.

"The Romance of Rosy Ridge" is an entertainingly-devised drama about the prejudices between the North and South which survived the Civil War, and which, at times, burst into isolated conflagrations. Against this historical background, the film ambles along with frolicsome ease. As for Johnson, he is presented in a different role, as a barefoot vagabond in tattered breeches and a yen for warbling folklore ballads when not playing his harmonica.

The screenplay by Lester Cole, has been based on the MacKinlay Kantor story. When Johnson arrives at Thomas Mitchell's farm in Rosy Ridge, a stronghold of Confederate sentiment, there seems to be some veiled purpose to the stranger's visit. There is also some uncertainty as to whether his loyalties are with the gray or the blue. He becomes a welcome addition to the farm, however, when he starts rebuilding the barn, planting crops, and paying special attention to Mitchell's daughter, played by Janet Leigh, a lovely newcomer to the screen.

Direction by Roy Rowland pays careful attention to many shots of scenic outdoors. As the story progresses, Johnson concludes that it would be a good idea to stage a big party and invite everybody. A Yankee tune played at the affair causes complete disruption, and when Johnson reveals he fought on the side of the North, he is barred from the farm. Presently Miss Leigh runs off to join him. The climax is reached when Johnson exposes a plot to stir up hatred among the farmers so that their property could eventually be seized. By finally disclosing that Mitchell's son died in Johnson's arms, both fighting side-by-side in the Northern army, family differences are happily dissolved.

Others in the Jack Cummings' production are Marshall Thompson, Selena Royle, Charles Dingle and Guy Kibbee.

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification. Set for August release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Set Mexican Opening For Ansell Film

MEXICO CITY, July 6.—Preparations are being made here for the premiere in mid-August of Southern California Pictures' initial production venture, "Women in the Night." The film marks the production bow of Louis K. Ansell, head of the Ansell Brothers Theatres of St. Louis, Mo.

Proceeds of the premiere will be turned over to the local Variety Club.

Protest Increase in South African Tax

By R. N. Barrett

JOHANNESBURG, June 30 (By Airmail).—A storm of protest is swirling through the Cape, one of the four provinces in South Africa, on a proposed two to six pence increase on entertainments and sport taxes. The local director of African Consolidated Theatres has announced that ten theatres will close down if the new tax is approved by the Provincial Council, now debating the increase.

Not only theatre groups, but the public as well, are protesting the increase. In Cape Town, theatre managers addressed audiences and enlisted their support against the increase and in a short time over 118,000 people had signed petitions of protest.

New M-G-M House

M-G-M's newest showcase, the Metro Teusaquillo, in Bogota, Colombia, opened on July 4, according to Morton A. Spring, first vice-president of Loew's International. M-G-M now has three houses in Colombia, and a fourth, the Cine Metro, also Bogota, will be added this summer with a day-and-date first-run policy.

Presidential Assignment

Westrex Standard Sound System is being made for installation in the presidential palace in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, the company reports. The president of Honduras will use the equipment for private film showings.

Argentina Plans Cut In U.S. Film Imports

WASHINGTON, July 6.—The Argentine government is preparing a new law which would hold U. S. film imports to 200 pictures a year, according to a Department of Commerce report made public here.

The report says that the law would limit imports of foreign pictures [illegible] to a fixed percentage of form[illegible] imports or to a fixed number, and that the latest information is the limit would be 300 pictures a year, of which 200 would be from the U. S.

The law is designed to encourage increased Argentine production by opening up to local product theatre playing time formerly filled by foreign films. A new tax law is also in preparation which increases present theatre taxes by about 50 per cent.

During 1946, 310 new U. S. films were released, in addition to reissues, shorts, newsreels, cartoons, etc. Reception of films improved considerably, and box-office receipts exceeded all previous years.

Tax Collections Up In Puerto Rico

By E. Sanchez Ortiz

SAN JUAN, June 30 (By Airmail).—Box office tax collections in Puerto Rico on all public shows during the nine-month period from July, 1946, to March, 1947, amounted to $634,127, compared to $562,561 during the same period in 1946. This represents a 12.72 per cent increase, according to official figures.

The period covers box office receipts for the 1947 baseball season which ended in March of this year and which featured participation of the New York Yankees baseball club Motion picture theatres account fo more than 80 per cent of the over-al tax collections during that period despite the extraordinary sports events

Aleman To Get Film Record of U. S. Tour

WASHINGTON, July 6.—Presiden Aleman of Mexico will soon receive from President Truman a 30-minute film record of his visit to this country.

Produced by the State Department the film shows Aleman's visits to Washington, New York, Chattanooga and Kansas City.

S.O.S. Export Head Tours

Arthur Arce, export manager fo S.O.S. Cinema Supply Corp., is now touring Latin America where he i conferring with various S.O.S. distributors and agencies. Mexico, Cuba Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico are included in hi itinerary. During his absence, Pau Cherney has assumed his home offic duties.

FOUR FAMED DIRECTOR

nformation Funds

(*Continued from page* 1)

.d make recommendations on whether or not it is justified.

Senate leaders, however, were re- rted sticking to their decision of letracking the bill this session, even it receives the approval of the sub- mmittee and full committee.

enate to Get Bill —U. S. Film Plan

SHINGTON, July 6.—Sen. Aiken as disclosed that he will introduce in ie Senate this week a bill similar to hat recently introduced in the House y Rep. Mundt for Government pro- uction and distribution of films on mericanism.

Aiken announced his decision after onferring with representatives of the Iotion Picture Association, including gislative representative Jack Bryson, tanley McIntosh, Ken Clark, and ave Palfreyman.

The Vermont Republican said his ill would be broader than the Mundt ill, which appropriates $2,225,000 for ie U. S. Office of Education to pro- ure and distribute such films to chools. Aiken declared he wants the lms to reach adult groups also, rough civic and social groups and ossibly through the theatres, and lso wants the scripts adapted to radio resentation.

He admitted there would probably e no hearings on the bill this session.

30 Coast Unionists

(*Continued from page* 1)

uers, charging violation of the Taft- Hartley law. The complaint states hree charges of conspiracy including: violate the Taft-Hartley law, civil ights statutes, and the Sherman anti- rust laws.

The sum asked includes wages lost uring the nine-months' strike, which s still on, plus damages.

The same individuals launched a right to work" suit against producers, ATSE and the CSU in December, 946, which was dismissed by Federal udge Ben Harrison last February or lack of jurisdiction. Complainants eclare jurisdiction now exists under aft-Hartley law. The new suit omits he CSU from the defendants.

Filing followed by several hours a neeting between Carpenters' Interna- ional representative Joseph Cambiano nd major producers' labor executive Charles Boren, which ended without tatement by either party.

Struck in E-K Post

George R. Struck has been appoint- ed assistant manager of the medical ales division of Eastman Kodak Co. A graduate of the Massachusetts In- stitute of Technology in 1934, Struck as been with Kodak since 1938.

Haviland Joins PRC

Glenn Herbert Haviland has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as a sales- man in the Seattle branch to work un- ler branch manager Wallace Rucker, ccording to PRC offices here.

Theatre Takes Advance

(*Continued from page* 1)

the most prosperous with $15,926 recorded. Business tapered off in each successive week, and $14,695 was recorded for the final seven days.

Meanwhile, a new box-office leader emerged: "Duel in the Sun." Playing at increased admission prices in all situations, that film appeared most often as the nation's top grosser. "The Yearling" moved up into second place, and "The Egg and I" dropped from the second spot to third.

Among the others which came through as weekly leaders in a number of situations, "Miracle on 34th Street" stood out most prominently. Pressing closely were "The Best Years of Our Lives," "The Two Mrs. Carrolls," "Calcutta," "The Farmer's Daughter," "High Barbaree" and "Odd Man Out."

Also scoring impressively from time to time were: "The Jolson Story," "Cheyenne," "Great Expectations," "Copacabana," "Ramrod," "Framed," "Perils of Pauline," "Blaze of Noon," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "Homestretch," "Bedelia," "Pursued," "Northwest Outpost," "The Wicked Lady," "A Likely Story."

Also, "Honeymoon," "Smash-Up," "Boomerang!" "Stairway to Heaven," "Fun on a Weekend," "Time Out of Mind," "Michigan Kid," "Sinbad the Sailor," "That's My Man," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "Trail Street," "New Orleans," "Swell Guy," "Millie's Daughter," "Fiesta," "Ivy," "Dear Ruth," "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," "Living in a Big Way," "The Web" and "My Favorite Brunette."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follow:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre	1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024	Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,400	Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383	Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294	Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Jan. 31-Feb. 1....	181	2,293,600	18,197	Feb. 1-2	157	2,227,000	18,390
Feb. 7-8	177	2,089,600	17,495	Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638	Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718	Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Feb. 28-Mar. 1....	166	2,800,300	16,869	Mar. 1-2	164	2,106,000	18,939
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328	Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610	Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895	Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245	Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859	April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 11-12	184	2,239,500	17,606	April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798	April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945	April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253	May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 9-10	175	2,578,100	15,732	May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059	May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 23-24	169	2,369,100	14,018	May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972	May 31-June 1...	130	2,058,200	15,855
June 6-7	178	2,834,800	15,926	June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 13-14	165	2,511,700	15,222	June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 20-21	170	2,579,400	15,173	June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 27-28	174	2,557,000	14,695	June 28-29	159	2,599,000	16,094

'Long Night' Tradeshow

RKO Radio will hold trade showings of "The Long Night" at the Uptown, Oklahoma City, tomorrow and in its various centers on July 21, with the exception of Philadelphia where it has already been screened. The New York showing will be at 10:30 A.M. in the Normandie Theatre.

'Cry Wolf' Release Set

The national release date of "Cry Wolf," final production on Warner Brothers schedule for 1946-47, has been set for Aug. 16. Errol Flynn and Barbara Stanwyck head the cast of the film which opens on a pre-release world premiere engagement July 18 at the New York Strand.

Broidy Sets Releases

Release dates on the second and third Allied Artists films, to follow Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on 5th Avenue," have been set by Steve Broidy, president, it has been disclosed here. The date for "Black Gold" is Sept. 6, and "The Gangster," Nov. 22.

20th-Fox Meets

(*Continued from page* 1)

present at the meetings include: Andrew W. Smith Jr., general sales manager; Spyros P. Skouras, president; William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager, and Sam Shain, director of exhibitor and public relations.

Two previous regional sales meetings have been held, one in Los Angeles for the Western division, including the Mountain and Pacific districts, and the other in New York for the New York and Yankee districts.

Charles Barry Named ABC Vice-President

Charles C. Barry, programming executive for the American Broadcasting Company, has been elected vice-president in charge of programs and television of the network, it was announced here by Robert E. Kintner, executive vice-president. He succeeds Adrian Samish who resigned to become president of Show Productions.

RKO Sales Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

ations. Upon welcoming the delegates, Depinet will announce promotions and introduce new employes. N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO and RKO Radio will also greet the assembly.

At the three-day session will be home office executives, district managers, branch managers, salesmen and field exploiteers from the company's 38 branches in the U. S. and Canada, as well as representatives of the foreign department, RKO Theatres, the Hollywood Studios, Walt Disney Productions, Inc., Samuel Goldwyn Productions, Argosy Pictures, Robert Riskin Productions, Sol Lesser and RKO Pathe, Inc.

Home office representatives attending also include: Ralph Austrian, president, RKO Television Corp.; Leon J. Bamberger, sales promotion manager; Charles Boasberg, North-South division manager; Walter E. Branson, Western division manager; Nat Levy, Eastern division manager; S. Barret McCormick, advertising-publicity director; H. J. Michalson, short subjects sales manager; Rutgers Neilson, publicity manager; Terry Turner, head of the field staff.

On hand from the board of directors will be Harry M. Durning, Frederick L. Ehrman, L. Lawrence Green, L. Boyd Hatch, Floyd B. Odlum and George H. Shaw. Present from the studio will be Dore Schary, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production; Edward Dmytryk, director; and Perry Lieber, studio publicity director.

UA Sales Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rosenfield, representing Hal Roach; Harry Kosiner, representing Comet Productions and Edward Small; Lowell Calvert, representing Hunt Stromberg, and Seymour Poe, representing Sol Lesser. Also present at the luncheon will be producer Jules Levey.

District managers attending will be: Clayton Eastman, New England; Jack Ellis, New York; Mark N. Silver, Pennsylvania-Washington; Fred M. Jack, Southern; Rud Lohrenz, Midwestern; Moe Dudelson, Central; C. W. Allen, Prairie; W. E. Callaway, Western and Charles S. Chaplin, Canadian general manager. Home office executives attending will include H. D. Buckley, head of domestic operations; Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising publicity director, and Paul N. Lazarus, Sr., contract manager.

Mayfair First Run

(*Continued from page* 1)

have been set for the Mayfair are "Captain from Castile," "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Kiss of Death."

Deal is said to have been set by Harry Brandt with A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox distribution head. Smith was said to be in Atlantic City at the weekend and could not be reached for comment. The company previously revealed plans for roadshowing "Captain from Castile," in addition to "Forever Amber."

ACT IN 'VARIETY GIRL'...

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
June 1					STEPCHILD Brenda Joyce D—70 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	THAT'S MY MAN Don Ameche Catherine McLeod D—104 min. (613) (Rev. 4/7/47)	**(Block 6)** THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)				
June 8					PHILO VANCE RETURNS William Wright D—64 min. (Rev. 4/30/47)	WEB OF DANGER Adele Mara D—58 min. (616) (Rev. 6/18/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)				CHEYENNE Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman O—100 mins. (622) (Rev. 4/23/47)
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.	**(June Releases)**	HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (620) (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O—72 min. (684) (Rev. 6/18/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	**(June Releases)** MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Comet) STORK BITES MAN Jackie Cooper C		
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O—66 min.	LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)		THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/1/47)	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		**(June Releases)** ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)	PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O—56 min. (753) (Rev. 6/30/47)	RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min. (666)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (719) (Rev. 2/3/41)		THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	**(July Releases)** CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)		GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams D—(711)	THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. (619)	**(Block 7)**		(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (Rev. 6/27/47)		DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646)	SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	**(July Releases)** BOB, SON OF BATTLE Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	**(July Releases)**	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)		I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754)	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (Rev. 6/3/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)	(Hunt Stromberg) LURED Lucille Ball George Sanders D	THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn D—92 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)				UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (Rev. 6/17/47)	THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)		GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 3						WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min.	RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)				
Aug. 10							CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)				

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram*
(M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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DAILY

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62. NO. 5 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 8, 1947 TEN CENTS

$14,000,000 UAT Building Program Set

40-Site Deal Underway With Fox West Coast

Hollywood, July 7. — United Artists Theatres Corp., headed by Joseph Schenck, will increase its theatre holdings in California, now numbering 40.

Under negotiations with Fox West Coast now in progress, UATC will acquire 40 sites at a total estimated cost of $4,000,000 and construction entailing $10,000,000 expenditure will proceed as soon as Government restrictions are revoked.

UATC now operates 130 theatres in New York, Brooklyn and New Jersey; three in Baltimore; two in Columbus with Loew's; two in Pittsburgh with Loew's; one in Chicago; one in Detroit; and has a 50 per cent interest in the Robb and Rowley Circuit of 30 in Texas.

NCA Says Costly Backlog a Problem

Minneapolis, July 7.—Stanley Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, declares film inventories of major companies are a "headache" to producers and distributors, who are now "holding the bag" with a backlog of pictures made at high prices, and which were withheld from release to create an artificial film shortage.

The pictures which salesmen are talking about now were not released when exhibitors faced the worst shortage in history, Kane told members in a bulletin. "They were held off the market to create an artificial seller's market that forced you to accept the extortionate terms laid down for you. . . Now the song-and-dance is to get

(Continued on page 6)

Columbia Sets Deal: 14 Hayworth Films

Columbia has entered into a contract with Beckworth Corp. for the distribution of two Rita Hayworth productions each year for the next seven years.

All of Miss Hayworth's productions, to start on her return from a European tour, will be produced by the Beckworth Corp.

RKO Raises Shorts Total

RKO Radio has increased its short subject releasing program for 1947-48 to a total of 189, consisting of 85 in various series plus 104 RKO Pathe Newsreel releases. The program was announced by Harry Michalson, short subjects sales manager, at the company's 16th annual sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, yesterday.

The company had 176 shorts for the 1946-47 season.

A series of 18 Walt Disney subjects with Technicolor will be released, augmented by six revivals of former Disney cartoons, also in color.

RKO Radio will offer a new series of four two-reelers, to be called "My Pal," which will feature the dog, Flame. The first, now in production, has a cast headed by Sharyn Moffett and Ted Donaldson and is being di-

(Continued on page 3)

CSU Sues Majors, IA for 43 Million

Hollywood, July 7.—The Conference of Studio Unions has filed a $43,000,000 suit in Federal Court, against the major studios, IATSE and various individuals, based on provisions in the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, and charging a "back scratching"

(Continued on page 6)

Weekly Attendance Put at 91½ Million

Average weekly film theatre attendance in the United States is 91,491,129, American Theatres Association estimates in a report to the House Ways and Means Committee, the figure being based on admission tax collections. Total attendance annually is put at 4,757,538,708. Estimated admission tax yields for the past four fiscal years are listed as follows: 1943, $117,051,438; 1944, $151,294,709; 1945, $254,594,242; 1946, $290,275,281.

Sears Will Address UA Meeting Today

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, who is now in London, will address the opening session today of the UA district managers' conference at the Waldorf-Astoria here through trans-continental telephone hook-up. District managers, home office executives and members of the sales force will hear Sears, who is presently engaged in business matters for UA in England and on the Continent, over

(Continued on page 7)

Towns Get 65% of Every Theatre Dollar: Mayer

San Francisco, July 7.—Out of every dollar taken in by a local film theatre, 65 per cent is paid out for rentals, local advertising, local employes' salaries, local taxes and other local expenses, Louis B. Mayer told the annual convention of the Newspaper Advertising Executives Association.

Louis B. Mayer

Mayer pointed out that "the expenditures of some $52,000,000 annually in newspapers places our industry third on the nation's list of advertisers." He added that "Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer alone has some 14,000 theatre accounts which advertise in local newspapers."

Declaring that a crisis exists, in which it is necessary to defend American traditions, Mayer asserted that motion pictures "can portray fairly and honestly the American way of life and can be a powerful influence in the lives of millions in other countries who are either denied access to our way of life, or who have never had the opportunity of experiencing it."

The industry welcomes competition, he continued. Foreign films "are exhibited in American theatres on the same basis as our own . . . there is no quota." Meanwhile, he pointed out, "in most other countries there is a tariff and a tax which places our films at a disadvantage to the films produced in those countries."

Mayer praised motion pictures for having stimulated "the desire of people to purchase new inventions, to adopt new styles. . . ."

Tax Cut Vital To Industry Congress Told

ATA and MPTOA Submit Proposals for Relief

Congressional approval of their recommended 50 per cent Federal admissions tax slash is "deemed imperative if the indstry is to survive," the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America declare in a joint statement submitted to Rep. Harold Knutson, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee at Washington.

The two organizations urge the elimination of all taxation on admissions for children of 12 and under and only a one-cent levy for each 10 cents in admission price or major fraction thereof.

They submitted also an alternative proposal that would tax all admis-

(Continued on page 7)

Top Executives to Hear Rank in N. O.

New Orleans, July 7.—In addition to a large delegation of Paramount theatre partners, a sizable contingent of New York industry executives will attend the meeting and dinner here on Friday which will be addressed by J. Arthur Rank, British film industry leader, at the invitation of E. V. Richards, head of Paramount-Richards Theatres here.

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox; A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox sales head; Leonard Golden-

(Continued on page 7)

20th-Fox, ACT Agree On Exchange Plan

London, July 7.—An exchange agreement between 20th Century-Fox and the Association of Cine-Technicians, permitting William Perlberg and Joseph Mankiewicz to work on

(Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

"Black Narcissus" and "The Roosevelt Story" are reviewed on page 6. Key city grosses appear on page 7.

Annual Memorial for Gross and Peppiatt

Philadelphia, July 7.—At a meeting of the board of Variety Club Tent No. 13, here, it was decided that a memorial fund would be established in honor of the late Sam Gross and Cecil E. Peppiatt, 20th Century-Fox distribution officials, who recently met an end in an airplane accident.

Ben Amsterdam, head of Atlantic Theatres, and Earle Sweigert, Paramount division manager, were chosen chairmen of the Gross-Peppiatt Memorial Committee, which has decided on a fund for the establishment of two college scholarships each year for the next 10 years.

Stevens Says Critics Abroad Are Biased

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—American pictures in foreign markets take a good deal of knocking from critics who are naturally inclined to praise their own national film industries, despite the reception accorded most foreign films in this country, RKO Radio director George Sidney charges.

"While most American critics extend the benefit of doubt to imported pictures, and one segment or wing of our reviewers seem to be inspired to paens of praise if not abject ecstasy at the mere thought of a foreign production, I find that nearly all the reviewing gentry in other countries exhibit a seeming bias in favor of their own product," Stevens asserted.

Granville Assigned WB Post in Far East

Douglas J. Granville, formerly manager for Warner Brothers in Chile, has been named supervisor for India, Burma, Siam, French Indo-China, Malayan Straits and Singapore, by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International in charge of Latin-America, Australia and the Far East.

Granville, who succeeds Michael Shathin, resigned, is now in New York for conferences with Cohen and other home office executives. He will leave in two weeks for a survey of his new territories, winding up in Singapore, where he will make his headquarters.

To Revive Chicago Employees Union

CHICAGO, July 7.—Local No. B-46, dormant theatre employes union of ushers, ticket sellers and collectors, candy sales persons, door guards and other miscellaneous theatre personnel, will hold a meeting here next week, it was announced by Eugene Atkinson, business manager of Local No. 110, IATSE and sponsor of the new group.

Purpose of this first meeting is to elect officers and directors, appoint committees and discuss wage agreements, it was said. Approximately 1,500 persons have paid dues into the new local since its formation last fall.

Personal Mention

PAT CASEY has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

LILLIAN MARLOW, secretary to ALFRED W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of sales, will be married on Saturday to WALTER NELLING, consulting engineer.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK, M-G-M vice-president and Eastern studio representative, is due here from the Coast at the end of the week.

•

J. LAWRENCE SCHANBERGER, owner of Keith's Theatre, Baltimore, is vacationing with his family at Atlantic City, N. J.

•

DELMER DAVES, Warner Brothers' director, and VIVECA LINDFORDS, WB star, will arrive here on Thursday from the Coast, en route to Paris.

•

STEVE BROIDY, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, will leave Hollywood on Friday for Oklahoma City.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Brothers' Eastern district manager, left here last night for Buffalo, Syracuse and Oneida, N. Y.

•

HARRY SCHREIBER, RKO theatre city manager, recently transferred to Columbus, O., was guest of honor at a surprise breakfast in Cleveland.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, returned here yesterday from Chicago.

•

E. M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, is vacationing.

•

ROGER FERRI, editor of *New Dynamo*, 20th Century-Fox house organ, left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

C. G. LAWING, special representative in Charlotte, N. C., for the Southeastern Theatre Supply Co., has resigned.

•

ROBERT J. WELLS has been named salesman in the Seattle branch of Producers Releasing Corp.

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, SRO Eastern advertising-publicity director, accompanied by MANNY REINER, Latin American sales manager, is en route to Mexico City.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's short subjects sales, reprints and importations, has returned to New York from Charlotte after a month's tour of exchanges across the country.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will speak at the annual convention of the I.T.O. of Ohio, July 14, at Cedar Point, O.

•

MISS JEAN AUDREY HADDOW, daughter of G. KNOX HADDOW, manager of Paramount branch service department, is engaged to THOMAS B. MAHON of Huntington, L. I.

•

MISS DOROTHY DE GRANGE is engaged to THOMAS WOOD BALDRIDGE, Middle Atlantic States promotional representative of M-G-M.

•

MILTON GOLDBERG, former Broad Brook, Conn., theatreman, and MRS. GOLDBERG are parents of a girl, ROBERTA SUE.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, assistant treasurer of Loew's, and MRS. STERN, will leave New York on July 18 for a vacation at Swampscott, Mass.

•

STERLING WILSON, Warner representative in Baltimore, has been transferred to Norfolk.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warner Brothers' playdate department, is in Washington.

•

HARRY BRANDT, president of Brandt Theatres and the ITOA of New York, has left for the Coast.

•

CARL GRISWOLD has resigned as manager of the Strand Theatre, Willimantic, Conn.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN, JR., is visiting Italy after atttending the Brussels World Film Festival.

F. H. Fisher To Head Eagle-Lion of Canada

TORONTO, July 7.—The J. Arthur Rank Organization in Canada formally announced today the appointment of F. H. Fisher as general manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada as of July 14, to succeed Archie Laurie who has yet to reveal his future business arrangements.

Formerly an official with Canadian Odeon, Fisher became general sales manager of Eagle-Lion here some months ago.

Denver Allied Meeting

DENVER, July 7.—A one-day meeting will be held by the Rocky Mountain Allied unit at its new Denver headquarters on July 16. Members are invited as well as other theatre owners.

Kentucky Exhibitor Unit Board to Meet

LOUISVILLE, July 7.—Guthrie Crowe, unit president, has called a board of directors meeting of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners for Thursday, at which time election ballots mailed in will be counted too. Also, the matter of financial policy will be discussed and a date will be selected for the annual KATO convention.

Luncheon for Rank

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—The board of governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will honor J. Arthur Rank tomorrow at a luncheon at the Friars Club. Among those attending will be Robert Benjamin, Nate Blumberg, Arthur Krim, Leo Spitz and William Goetz.

Award Will Honor World War Writers

HOLLYWOOD, July 7.—A film award in memory of screen writers who gave their lives in World War II has been announced by the Screen Writers' Guild.

In memory of Robert Meltzer, David Silverstein, Frederick Faust, Edward de Melcher and Arch Heath, SWG members killed in the war, the award carries the name the Robert Meltzer Award. Meltzer died in [illegible] first American assault on the Na[illegible] held French coast on June 6, 1944. The annual award will be for the writing of the American film which, in addition to its value as entertainment, most effectively contributes to a better understanding of world problems.

Loew's in Deal for 4 Goldwyn Films

Contracts have been signed between Samuel Goldwyn Productions, RKO Radio and Loew's International whereby Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will exhibit four Goldwyn productions in its two showcases in Johannesburg and Durban, as well as distribute throughout South Africa. The pictures involved are "The Best Years of Our Lives," "The Kid from Brooklyn," "Wonder Man" and "The Princess and the Pirate."

RKO Radio will continue to handle distribution of Goldwyn pictures throughout the rest of the world.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
PAT O'BRIEN · WALTER SLEZAK · ANNE JEFFREYS
in
'RIFF-RAFF'
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Fred MacMURRAY
in
BETTY MacDONALD'S
'THE EGG and I'
IN PERSON
LUBA MALINA
JACK E. LEONARD
Extra!
WIERE BROS.
Plus OTHERS

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
33RD WEEK!
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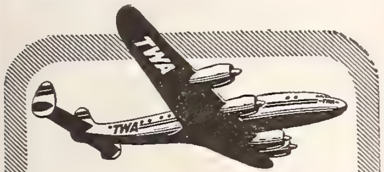
Chaplin Is Opposed To Selling of UA

Negotiations for the sale of United Artists which have been carried on by Mary Pickford and others in New York have been wholly without Charles Chaplin's participation and he has no present intention of letting go of his half interest in the company, it is reported in today's *New York Times* from Hollywood. Source was given as "an authorized spokesman at his (Chaplin's) studio."

"I have had no meetings with Miss Pickford," he is quoted by his spokesman as saying, "and I have not been a party to any other meetings regarding this matter, nor do I plan to be. I have never received any kind of offer for my interest in United Artists, and I have never put a price on them.

"As to reports that I am selling my studio, that I am disposing of my latest picture 'Monsieur Verdoux' and that I am going to Mexico to live and do my work, these are completely untrue. I have had no such thought at any time, nor will I have. I consider 'Monsieur Verdoux' my greatest picture and I have no intention of selling it."



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RKO Increases Short Subjects

(*Continued from page 1*)

rected by Lew Landers.

RKO Radio short revivals are four two-reel Ray Whitley Westerns. There will also be seven "Jamboree" revivals of one-reel musicals featuring name bands.

Further subjects in the two-reel group consist of the Edgar Kennedy and Leon Errol series of six each and a "This Is America" series of 13 releases. George Bilson produces the former and Frederic Ullman, Jr., the latter, along with the twice-weekly issue of RKO Pathe News, 13 "Sportscopes" and seven "Flicker Flashbacks." There will also be a two-reel special subject.

RKO Radio's 1947-48 features will be announced by Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president, at this afternoon's session of the sales meeting. Announcement of the product will take place at the conclusion of the annual RKO organization luncheon which will be attended by the management and home office staff of RKO Radio, RKO Theatres, the sales meeting delegates, special guests and Hollywood stars. This morning the delegates will see advance showings of 1947-48 features at the Normandie Theatre.

At the conclusion of Depinet's product presentation, N. Peter Rathvon will be the first speaker. On the agenda are: Dore Schary, executive vice-president in charge of production; Edward Dmytryk, director; James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions; Roy Disney, president of Disney Productions; Ullman, president of RKO Pathe; Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres; Sol Schwartz, vice-president and general manager of RKO Theatres; Walton Ament, vice-president of RKO Pathe; Ted O'Shea, general sales manager of Liberty Films and others. Stars scheduled to attend include: John Mills, Michael Redgrave, James Stewart and Merle Oberon.

Yesterday afternoon's session was opened by Mochrie, who spoke on current releases, pointing out that grosses for the first half of 1947 exceeded the same period of last year. At the same time he pointed out the necessity of bettering the previous record since greatly increased production costs have made the profit gap comparatively larger.

Following Mochrie's talk, separate division meetings were held with Walter E. Branson presiding over the Western division; Nat Levy, the Eastern division and Charles Boasberg, the Northsouth division, prior to which winners in the 1947 Ned E. Depinet Drive were announced.

RKO Radio's Sioux Falls exchange won first prize in the Ned Depinet Drive, it was announced here yesterday by Depinet, RKO executive vice-president, at the company's sales meeting in the Waldorf-Astoria. Minneapolis took second place, Denver third and Chicago fourth, comprising the capital prize group. Winnipeg was first in the Canadian division with Montreal.

This is the first year that RKO Radio's Sioux Falls exchange has won top place with prize money going to Sherman W. Fitch, branch manager, his sales force consisting of O. Eleeson and J. L. Watters, and Charles Laughlin, office manager and booker. L. Radspinner, student booker. All other employees of the branch will also participate in the prize money. This exchange will also divide fourth prize money in Walt Disney billings fifth prize in short subjects billings and first prize in "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Song of the South" sales

Roxy to Increase Scale for 'Amber'

"Forever Amber," 20th Century-Fox, will open at the Roxy here about Nov. 1 with a "probable" increase in admission prices from $1.50 top to $1.80 on weekends and from $1.25 to $1.50 maximum during the week, according to a theatre spokesman. A brief stage show will accompany the film.

Kansas City, K., Runs Face Power Shutdown

KANSAS CITY, July 7.—Theatres in Kansas City, Kansas, are operating under the hazard of closing if a major break in power lines occurs, because of a strike of linemen, helpers and electrical department trouble men of municipally-owned utilities. Strikers have left small emergency crews for maintaining water pumps and service to hospitals.

So far there has been no major trouble except cases of breakage in lines to air conditioning plants which strikers did not consider emergency requiring repairs. Kansas City, Missouri, is not affected.

Correction

A. J. Laurie has advised MOTION PICTURE DAILY that his resignation as general manager of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, Ltd., was "a straight business matter" and not due to ill health, as was reported from Toronto on July 1. "I never felt better in my life," Laurie writes.

Metro Will Have Four in Columbia

M-G-M's newest foreign showcase, the Metro Teusaquillo, in Bogota, Colombia, has been opened, it was announced here by Morton A. Spring, vice-president of Loew's International Corp. This brings to three the number of M-G-M theatres in Colombia. The other two are the Metro in Medellin and Metro in Barranquilla. A fourth will be added this summer when the Cine Metro, also in Bogota, opens to inaugurate a day-and-date first-run policy with the Metro Teusaquillo.

Paramount to Open Branch in Jamaica

Paramount plans to open a branch "as soon as possible" in Jamaica, it was disclosed here yesterday.

Incorporation papers for Paramount Films of Jamaica, Ltd., have been filed at Albany, with Roger C. Clement, George Weltner and Milton Kirshenberger as incorporators.

RKO-Rank Premiere

LONDON, July 7.—"So Well Remembered," produced jointly by RKO Radio and J. Arthur Rank, will have its world premiere at the Leicester Square theatre here on Thursday.

Walter Wessling Dies

PORTLAND, Ore., July 7.—Walter Wessling died here today. He had been branch manager for Monogram for 10 years.

Clark Leaves PRC For a Long Rest

Ralph H. Clark has resigned from the post of general sales manager of Producers Releasing, on orders from his physicians who insist upon a rest of several months.

Clark has been absent from his desk at the home office since May. At that time it was believed that a four-week vacation would be sufficient to allow him to resume his duties. However, a checkup now reveals the necessity for an additional rest. His successor will be named later.

Clark plans to leave here for the Coast sometime this week, to take advantage of climatic conditions there, and to allow him to spend some time with son, Ralph, Jr., who is manager of PRC's San Francisco exchange.

Petrillo Would Bar AFMRecord-Making

WASHINGTON, July 7.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, declared today that "as of now" his union plans to bar its members from making records after Dec. 31, 1947 and from participating in radio network music shows after Feb. 1, 1948.

Taking the offensive out of the hands of the House labor sub-committee which today opened what promises to be an extended investigation of AFM practices, Petrillo said he was acting to avert large-scale unemployment among musicians.

"In one year, 50 per cent of our men will be on the streets," he told the committee. Petrillo later admitted that "something might happen" to change his mind later on, but "that's how I feel right now."

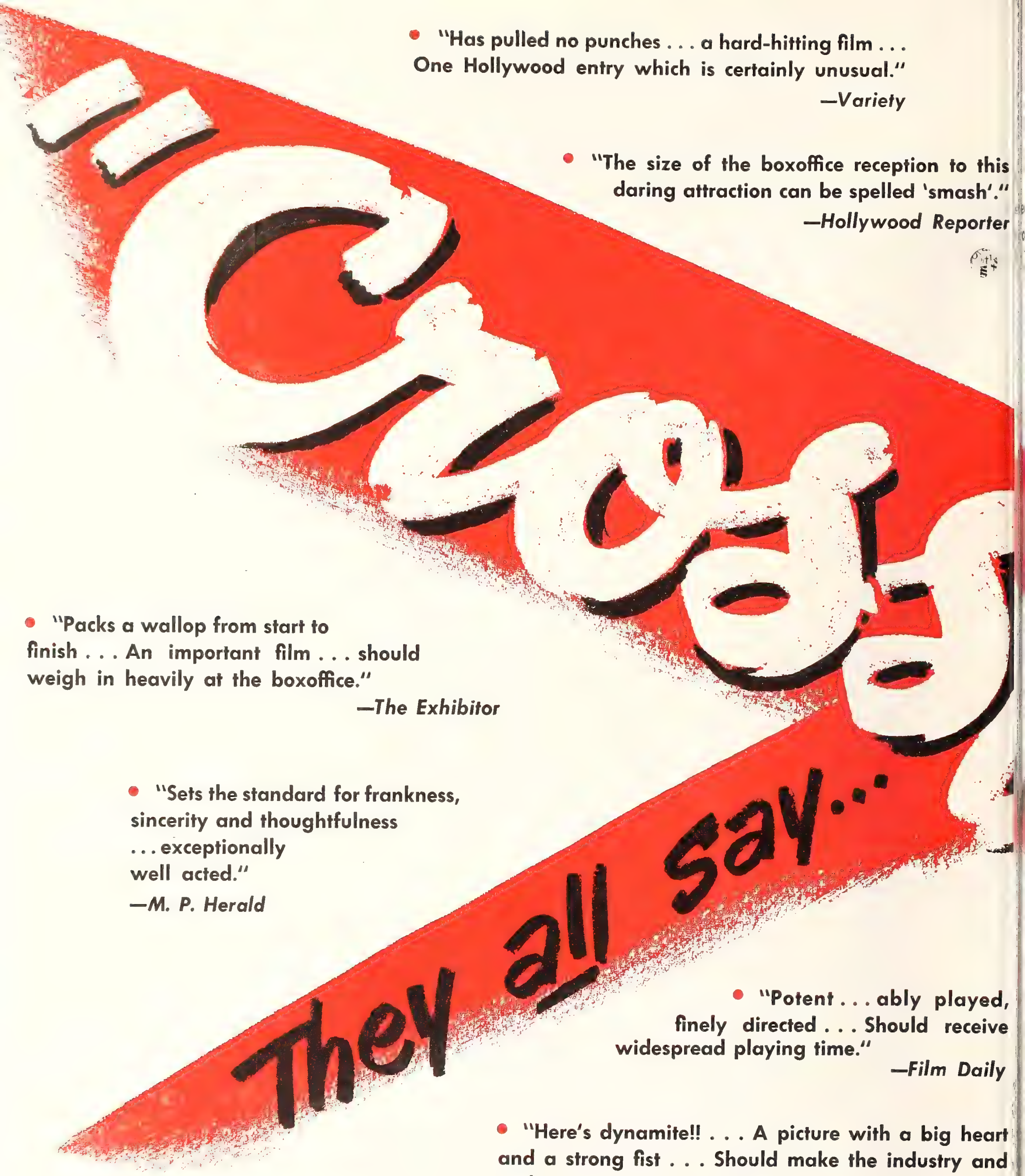
State Censor Post Is Still Unset

ALBANY, N. Y., July 7.—A date is still unset for the civil service examination for the motion picture division directorship (censor) post, which has not been permanently filled since April 1, 1945, when Irwin Esmond retired. It marks one of the longest periods in recent state history for a position of that importance to be left to a temporary director. Dr. Ward Bowen, the incumbent, also chief of the Bureau of Visual Aids, is not a candidate for the top censor post.

Present delay in the permanent appointment is said to flow from a dispute between the Civil Service Commission and the State Education Department over whether the examination should be open competitively or promotional.

Suit Closes Theatre

MINNEAPOLIS, July 7.—Suit charging abrogation of agreement to refrain from entering the exhibition field in the city, with the sale of the Roxy, Argyle, Minn., by A. L. (Tommy) Thompson to T. E. Hanson, has resulted in the closing of the former's Alvin, recently opened in the 860 population town in a converted store building. Thompson has notified film exchanges the house will remain closed pending outcome of the suit, in cancelling out bookings for the Alvin.


They all say...

- "Has pulled no punches . . . a hard-hitting film . . . One Hollywood entry which is certainly unusual."
—*Variety*

- "The size of the boxoffice reception to this daring attraction can be spelled 'smash'."
—*Hollywood Reporter*

- "Packs a wallop from start to finish . . . An important film . . . should weigh in heavily at the boxoffice."
—*The Exhibitor*

- "Sets the standard for frankness, sincerity and thoughtfulness . . . exceptionally well acted."
—*M. P. Herald*

- "Potent . . . ably played, finely directed . . . Should receive widespread playing time."
—*Film Daily*

- "Here's dynamite!! . . . A picture with a big heart and a strong fist . . . Should make the industry and audiences stand up and cheer."
—*Independent Film Journal*

WORLD PREMIERE AT B'WAY'S LON
—WATCH ITS DRAMA BLISTER TH

● "Exceptionally good entertainment . . . certain to be one of the most talked about pictures yet produced."
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"A forceful film that should set an audience back on its
eels . . . Suspense and action maintained at high pitch
om opening to smash finish."
—*Boxoffice*

"Sensational!"

fire!"

● "A very important film . . . hard-hitting and direct . . . No punches pulled . . . An essentially new experience."
—*M. P. Daily*

● "One of the most important and exciting films to come out of Hollywood in its entire history."
—*Film Bulletin*

● "RKO can really do some whooping and hollering about 'Crossfire' . . . It travels a straight line to a climax that will set audiences cheering."
—*Daily Variety*

DORE SCHARY *presents*
ROBERT YOUNG
ROBERT MITCHUM
ROBERT RYAN
in
Crossfire
with GLORIA GRAHAME
PAUL KELLY · SAM LEVENE
Produced by ADRIAN SCOTT · Directed by EDWARD DMYTRYK
Screen Play by JOHN PAXTON

RKO RADIO PICTURES

RUN RIVOLI...
CREEN!

Gov't. Approves 13 New Theatre Jobs

WASHINGTON, July 7. — Government approval has been granted 13 more theatre projects. They are:

Damon McCloud, Blythville, Ark., theatre; Leon Newman, Nueces County, Tex., drive-in; G. W. McCutcheon, Charleston, Mo., rebuilt theatre; Carl Swedberg, Webster, S. D., theatre; Taft Thomas, Zion City, La., theatre; Tom C. Tobin, East St. Louis, Ill., rehabilitate building for theatre.

Also: Wilton C. Jackson, Odessa, Tex., theatre; Willard H. Barlage, Farmington, Utah, theatre; R. H. Head, Blairsville, Ga., theatre completion; Port Drive-in Theatre, Corpus Christi, Tex., drive-in; Chalk Hill Theatres, Inc., Austin, Tex., drive-in; Chester Demarsh, Grove City, Pa., drive-in completion; Lacy K. Ragan and Vincent G. Melavick, Greenville, Mo., theatre.

Appeal Pends in Ohio AAA Clearance Case

CLEVELAND, July 7.—Leonard Mishkind and S. P. Gorrel, owners of the Orr and Grand theatres, Orrville, disclose they will appeal the verdict handed down last week by Sidney Jackson, arbitrator in their action against the five majors, which failed to give them any of the relief sought.

Miskind and Gorrel sought entire clearance elimination between Orrville and Wooster and Massilon. The arbitrator continued the 14-day Wooster clearance and established a seven-day Massilon clearance.

Costly Backlog

(*Continued from page* 1)

back those high production costs through high film rentals, to keep the seller's market going in the face of a combination that always makes a buyer's market—plenty of merchandise and declining demand."

Kane advised NCA members to let distributors "hold the bag" on films produced at high prices, adding that "if they look funny doing it, it's a comic picture they produced themselves."

Kane also urged members to keep in touch with his office for a close tab on possible effects of the anti-lottery drive in Minnesota on theatre give-aways, and warned exhibitors to abide by the law.

E. M. Loew in Deal

LOUISVILLE, July 7.—Rounding out a $1,500,000 deal here, I. Jerome Riker and associates of Brooklyn have bought the National theatre, the Realty Building, and the Southland Apartments from A. J. Hoffman of Evansville, Ind. Riker has concluded a lease for the theatre with E. M. Loew of Boston, which is said to represent a minimum of $700,000 rental against a percentage over 21 years.

Reviews

"Black Narcissus"

(*Universal-International—Rank*)

THE presence of Deborah Kerr and Sabu in a large and competent cast in this lavish Technicolor film make for marquee exploitability of a subject which requires special explanation for American audiences. Prints shown in this country will carry a foreword explaining that the nuns shown are not members of the Roman Catholic Church, but are members of an order of the Anglo-Catholic Church. To what extent this prefatory explanation may condition American audiences to a story dramatizing the fallibility of members of a holy order remains for exhibition to demonstrate. The film is, however, painstakingly and powerfully made, and appears sure to provoke wide discussion.

Written, produced and directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, from a novel by Rumer Godden, the film opens with the dispatch of five sisters of the Order of the Servants of Mary to establish a mission, school and hospital in a remote mountainous section of India where a previous attempt, by holy brothers, has failed. Climate, native superstition and other forces are against them, and they are dependent principally upon the help of an unsympathetic and irreligious Englishman (played by David Farrar) with whom, as loneliness and unsuccess exert their influence, Sister Ruth (Kathleen Byron) falls desperately in love, while Sister Superior Clodach (Miss Kerr) resists the same emotion. The three other sisters triumph over other temptations, but Sister Ruth renounces the sisterhood, obtains lay clothing and runs away to the Englishman's quarters. He rejects her, and she returns to the mission, attempts to murder Sister Superior Clodach and loses her own life in the attempt. Ultimately the mission is abandoned as a failure, and the surviving sisters leave for other assignment.

The picture dwells steadily upon the emotional problems of the sisterhood, emphasizing temptation and resistance to temptation. Acting is uniformly excellent, and directing is of high order. Mountings are superb. American audience reaction defies prediction.

Reviewing the film from London on May 12 in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Peter Burnup said: "The Powell-Pressburger team could so easily this time have made a picture of some embarrassment. Instead they turn in one of superb loveliness."

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Roosevelt Story"

(*Tola Productions*)

MARTIN LEVINE and Oliver Unger, who, in association with Harry Brandt, produced this stirring documentation of 40 years in the life of Franklin D. Roosevelt, have concluded that "no other man in the world was filmed as much as F.D.R." They combed 2,000,000 feet of newsreel and other film over a period of 16 months before coming up with the entry which last month won the Brussels World Film Festival prize for the motion picture "best exemplifying the philosophy of world neighborliness and international democratic principles." Advertising of that citation should certainly serve to stimulate grosses.

"The Roosevelt Story" was obviously a labor of love for the principals connected with its making: the producers, film editors William Van Praag and Walter Klee, script writer Lawrence M. Klee, and narrators Kenneth Lynch, Canada Lee, Ed Begley and Kelly Flint. Their work was approved by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and Elliott Roosevelt served as editorial consultant.

The picture emerges as a singularly moving tribute to the life, personality and work of the late President. Compiled with judicious selectivity to attain the maximum in dramatic impact and story flow, the individual sequences are expertly woven together by man-in-the-street narration and impressive music scoring as the initial scenes of the Washington funeral procession of two years ago give way to early "flicker" shots of F.D.R. and his family as well as the film record of his candidacy for various offices, his Navy Department years, New York governorship, and four terms as President. Covered are the depression, the alphabet-juggling New Deal, the coming of World War II and sundry other aspects of the Roosevelt story including such gems of humor as "the Falla incident." A film compilation dealing with FDR was inevitable. We doubt that a better, fonder job than this could be done.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 30.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Begin Foreign Policy

Century Circuit's Town Theatre in Flushing, L. I., will start a foreign film and documentary policy on Friday, according to J. R. Springer, the company's general theatre manager.

O'Neil to Manage 4

HARTFORD, July 7.—Ed O'Neil has rejoined Markoff Theatres as general manger over the Moodus, Moodus; Colchester, Colchester; East Hampton, East Hampton, and Strand, Willimantic.

Says Congressmen Favor Tax Relief

Minneapolis, July 7.—Every Minnesota Congressman in Washington favors either a Federal admission tax to apply only on the actual amount of the sale price of theatre tickets, or a thorough study of the regulations handed down by the Treasury Department, which compe[illegible] theatre to pay full 20 per[illegible] tax on regularly established student and junior cut prices, Stanley Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, said.

The favorable response received by Kane was in answer to letters to Congressmen, in which he pointed out the inequality of the Treasury ruling, but in which he emphasized the opposition of NCA to any continued Federal admission tax.

CSU Sues

(*Continued from page* 1)

agreement between the majors a the IATSE with intent to crush CS and kill off competition from inc pendent producers.

Suit asserts the majors conspi with IATSE to make fewer pictu than normally and to hire only IATS production staffs, excluding CS from studios, and that IATSE wou withhold workmen from independ producers until the majors had f complement employees, thereafter su plying workers to independents higher wages and under more onero conditions than imposed on the majo

Suit further asserts Willie Bio although not an IATSE officer, h been in Hollywood several mont and directs IATSE policy.

Named as defendants are all maj company presidents, studio heads, pri cipal executives, studio labor ma agers, Pat Casey, IATSE preside Richard Walsh, International repr sentative Roy M. Brewer and Bioff.

Plaintiffs are the carpenters, pain ers, machinists, foundry worke decorators, sheet metal workers local and Henry J. Kistner. Latter, a pain er, asks on his own behalf, and behalf of all others similarly situate $4,693 as wages lost since the stri started.

Brewer issued a statement tod declaring the CSU charge that Bio dictates IATSE policy is "absolute and completely false."

Rensselaer Theatre Fire

ALBANY, N. Y., July 7. — Mo than 200 filed calmly out of the U town Theatre in nearby Rensselae last night when fire started in th booth. The staff extinguished th blaze, believed to have been cause by a short circuit, before fire app ratus arrived.

'VARIETY GIRL' FEATURES S

ars Will Address

(*Continued from page* 1)

ud speaker system.

J. Unger, UA general sales man-, will introduce Sears following own introductory remarks. Unger conduct all sessions of the three-meeting, assisted by Edward M. nitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales ager, and Maury Orr, Western s manager. Discussions on sales cy and product will occupy major throughout the proceedings eparate divisional sessions duled as part of the program to-row and Thursday.

he opening day's program, apart n the addresses by Sears and Ung-will include speeches by Schnitzer Orr. District managers attending be Clayton Eastman, New Eng-; Jack Ellis, New York; Mark N. er, Philadelphia - Washington; d M. Jack, Southern; Moe Dudel-Central; Rud Lohrenz, Mid-tern; C. W. Allen, Prairie; W. E. away, Western, and Charles S. plin, Canadian general manager. o present will be Walter Gould, nager of the foreign department, ry D. Buckley, head of domestic rations; Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., ad-tising-publicity director; Paul N. arus, Sr., contract manager, and ry Muller, Charles Steele, Abe kstein, Robert Goldfarb and Jack ege, all of the home office.

th-Fox, ACT Agree

(*Continued from page* 1)

picture, "Escape," in England has n reached here after prolonged dis-sion. ACT has also reached a sim-agreement with Paramount, gov-ing the exchange of industry tech-ans between England and the U. S.

he dispute between 20th Century-k and ACT arose suddenly, while n O'Brien, general secretary of the tional Association of Theatrical Kine Employes, London, and hard F. Walsh, international presi-t of IATSE, were drafting the l phases of an exchange agree-nt on American and British tech-ans.

ACT's executive committee had de-ed that its members would not rk if Perlberg, Mankiewicz and other 20th Century-Fox producer ne to England to work on the pic-e. It had insisted that a preliminary rall agreement on the employment American technicians and other sonnel in England be reached with MPA.

Prior to O'Brien's trip to the ited States to confer with Walsh the exchange agreement, a protest r Paulette Goddard's hairdresser l caused a stoppage.

As a result of the ACT agreement t concluded, three British techni-ns will leave here on July 31 for U. S

xtend Dickinson Date

Kansas City, July 7.—National eatres, distributors and other de-dants in Glen Dickinson's $1,575,- anti-trust suit have been given an ension to Aug. 11 to file answers.

Tax Cut Vital to Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

sions on the one-cent-for-evary-10 basis. The joint statement was signed by Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, and A. Julian Brylawski, MPTOA vice-president.

In a supplementary statement, New York's Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association urges that the entire Federal tax of 20 per cent be removed. However, it adds that if this is not feasible in view of the nation's economic situation the group recommends that the tax on children's tickets be lifted and other admissions be taxed at the one-cent-for-every-10 rate. The New York organization claims that its member theatres are patronized by 5,000,000 persons weekly.

It states where adoption of a tax-cut program "would go far toward halting" a "very definite recession in theatre attendance." The reduction would prevent the "wiping out of all profit from many theatres," the statement continues, "and in the final analysis, would save for the Government large sums in corporate and other taxes which would be lost if the industry continues on the downgrade." Fred J. Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan outfit, concludes the MMPTA statement with a request for "prompt action so that the reduction may be put into effect before Congress adjourns."

ATA and MPTOA declare in their statement that "the theatre industry is uniquely vulnerable among businesses in that its profit area is confined to the top layer of gross business and a 20 per cent drop in gross business can result, not as in many other enterprises in a 20 per cent decrease in profits, but in the elimination of all profits." They recall this was brought out in testimony during a hearing before the House committee in Washington on May 29 at which Gamble and Brylawski both spoke. At that time it was said "that the motion picture as a medium of mass communication should not be emasculated by discriminatory taxation but should be left unfettered to assume its responsibility."

A 15 to 35 per cent decline in grosses during the last three months is reported. "For the purposes of this study an arbitrary assumption is made that grosses for the next 12 months—and hence tax yield expectancy for this period—would decrease another 20 per cent, or to an estimated tax yield of $266,422,164," it was said. The two organizations estimate that film theatres alone yielded $333,027,705 in the 12 months ending April 30, 1947.

That motion pictures are not a luxury is stressed. "A realistic view of national budgetary problems leads to the confinement of only partial tax relief rather than complete elimination of the 20 per cent levy," it was said.

ATA and MPTOA maintain that the 50 per cent reduction will assert itself in increased business and consequently the Government could figure on only a 35 per cent decrease in film theatre revenue. Children's tickets contribute only 6.12 per cent of total grosses, it was stated, amounting to only $13,257,103 in Government tax income.

In concluding, the ATA and MPTOA identify their proposals as an "effort to suggest equitable alternatives open to the committee as it seeks a course to relieve an industry and the public it serves of a burden that is discriminatory and unfair and which, barring relief, bids to make for qualitative deterioration of the motion picture as an art and for destruction of motion picture exhibition as a business enterprise.

Halt Tax Hearings This Month Until November

Washington, July 7.—The House Ways and Means Committee today voted to suspend the current hearings on general tax revision at the end of the third week of July, until early in November. At that time the Committee will resume hearings on all phases of tax revisions and continue such hearings for several weeks following that date.

Rank in N. O.

(*Continued from page* 1)

son, vice-president of Paramount in charge of theatre operations; Si Fabian, president of American Theatres Association: W. J. Heineman, Rank's American sales chief, and others are expected here from New York.

A large number of local and regional theatre operators and virtually every Paramount theatre partner in the Southern area will be on hand to give Rank the opportunity to break down their resistance to pictures made outside the United States.

Rank will be accompanied here from Hollywood by Nate J. Blumberg, Universal - International president; Jock Lawrence of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, New York, and others.

$10,589 for 'Ruth' in 3rd St. Louis Week

The third week of "Dear Ruth" at the St. Louis Theatre, St. Louis, drew a gross of $10,589, compared with $11,071 for the first week and $8,407 for the second, the Paramount home office here reported yesterday. The first four days of the fourth (current) week, Paramount adds, has brought a gross of $10,228.

Wells Films Gross $23,800

Some $23,800 has been grossed by the two H. G. Wells' films, "The Man Who Could Work Miracles" and "The Shape of Things to Come," in three weeks at the Squire Theatre, New York, according to Film Classics, distributor of the films.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Despite the weekend holiday which caused an out-of-town exodus, "Fiesta" is turning in a high figure, while other releases are giving good accounts in the majority of cases. Weekend weather was warm, punctuated with thunder storms. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 9-11:

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c 75c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $8,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITAL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,500)

HELDORADO (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 5 days. Dualled with **FALL GUY (Mono.).** Gross: $2,500. (Average, 4 days: $1,600)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000)

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—RKO ALBEE (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c). On stage Freddy Martin and orchestra, plus acts. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $30,000)

PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI (UA)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualled with **THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.).** Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

SOUTH OF THE CHISHOLM TRAIL (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualled with **VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio).** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

BALTIMORE

The holiday weekend apparently sent most amusement seekers to places other than theatres, with the customary Saturday and Sunday crowds lacking and openings none too good. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 10:

CHEYENNE (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $16,500)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 5th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-45c-54c-56c: $5,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,000)

IVY (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep. reissue)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 5th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $17,500)

E JONES' JOCULAR JIVE... F

IVY
is beautiful
IVY
is lovely
IVY
is EVIL...

"IVY" IS BOX-OFFICE

Tested in a five theatre day-and-date engagement in Los Angeles and at Loew's Criterion on Broadway in New York, "IVY" has definitely proven top box-office power.

• The public is singing the title song written by Hoagy Carmichael. Hear it over the air as recorded by Dick Haymes, Vaughn Monroe, Woody Herman and Jo Stafford. Every time it is played, it sells "IVY." It's a hit song for a hit picture.

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL
presents

JOAN FONTAINE

PATRIC KNOWLES
HERBERT MARSHALL
RICHARD NEY

in SAM WOOD'S
PRODUCTION OF
"IVY"

Directed by SAM WOOD, who gave
you "Saratoga Trunk," "Kings Row"

with SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE • LUCILE WATSON • ROSALIND IVAN • SARA ALLGOOD
Screenplay by CHARLES BENNETT • Based on the novel "The Story of Ivy" by Marie Belloc Lowndes
Produced by WILLIAM CAMERON MENZIES • A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 6 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

RKO to Have At Least 36 For 1947-'48

Depinet Issues Product Listing at Sales Meet

A minimum of 36 features are scheduled for distribution by RKO Radio during the 1947-1948 season, according to Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president.

Ned E. Depinet

Depinet spoke at the company's sales meeting yesterday at the Waldorf - Astoria here. The convention closes today.

Of the total, four features were made outside Hollywood in the Churubusco studios in Mexico. RKO-Pathe Cinema's studios, in Paris, and at Denham, England. One will be produced at the RKO Pathe studio here.

N. Peter Rathvon, president, told

(Continued on page 7)

MPA-Exhibitors to Meet on Film Plan

A meeting to further the program for production of a series of institutional subjects to promote industry public relations, with a view to ascertaining the part exhibition will play in the program, will be held at Motion Picture Association headquarters in Washington on July 16.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president and chairman of the industry committee for the program, is scheduled to preside. Edward Cheyfitz, Eric John-

(Continued on page 6)

Goldwyn Gets Astor Here for 18 Months

Samuel Goldwyn Productions yesterday said it "clinched its hold" on the Astor Theatre, Broadway "showcase," in an exclusive 18-month deal signed yesterday by James Mulvey, president of the company, and Robert Dowling, president of City Investing Corp., owners of the house.

The pact takes effect on Aug. 12 when Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of

(Continued on page 7)

Mulvey Sees Era of Simultaneous Runs

Declaring that "there must be a radical, a revolutionary change in our selling and exhibition policies if our industry is to keep its head above water," James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., addressing the RKO sales convention here yesterday, predicted that "the whole system of runs and clearances, as we now know it, will shortly be out the window and a new system of simultaneous release will take its place.

James Mulvey

"I think it is our duty to recognize that the whole public is entitled to see our pictures just as soon as possible, rather than to wait for the courts or public opinion to force us into that position," Mulvey asserted. "The trend

(Continued on page 7)

Film Reissue Protest Meeting Today

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Bringing to a head problems which are said to have resulted from the increase in reissued films and their reputed impact on employment in the motion picture industry, Hollywood guilds and unions are disclosed to be responding in large numbers to the call from the Screen Writers' Guild for tomorrow's conference of all studio employee organizations to consider this question.

F. Hugh Herbert, writer-director and secretary of the Screen Writers' Guild, pointed out in the conference call the need of an industrywide pro-

(Continued on page 7)

UA, SOPEG Agree to Base Rise on Majors

Representatives of United Artists and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO, signed a stipulation yesterday under which any wage increases obtained in forthcoming negotiations with other major companies will be given to some 200 UA home office employes, retroactive to May 31. The union had rejected a five per cent offer by UA.

(Continued on page 6)

Calls for Briefs on Freight Rate Rise

Washington, July 8.—A closed hearing on the requested Railway Express freight rate rise was concluded by the Interstate Commerce Commission today with the request that all parties file briefs with the commission by July 31. No action will take place before that date, officials said.

Industry representatives appeared at the original ICC hearing to protest any substantial rate increases; the film business is a large freight shipper of films, equipment and accessories.

Unger Sees a Break in Aug.

America's box offices today are doing a volume of business in excess of 50 per cent more than in the early 1940's, J. J. Unger, general sales manager of United Artists, stated here yesterday at the opening of a three-day session of company district managers and home office representatives, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

J. J. Unger

"It is my opinion, and that of many leaders of the industry," that the present leveling-off process will begin to diminish in August and that conditions for all will improve thereafter, Unger stated, add-

(Continued on page 7)

20th-Fox Meets in New Orleans Today

NEW ORLEANS, July 8.—Headed by Spyros Skouras, president, executives of 20th Century-Fox will arrive here tomorrow for a three-day meeting at the Roosevelt Hotel. Sales policy of forthcoming product will be discussed for the entire Southern division.

Accompanying Skouras from the home office will be Andrew Smith, general sales manager; William

(Continued on page 7)

ATA Leaders Favor MPTOA Affiliation

Seek Wolfson As Head; Must Drop Intervention

Directors of American Theatres Association, polled informally by mail, have expressed themselves overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed affiliation with Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, it was learned here yesterday.

MPTOA directors have not committed themselves yet and may not do so before July 18, when they are scheduled to meet here with ATA leaders to act on the proposal. However, informal inquiries reveal that MPTOA leaders favor the proposed affiliation in principle and their approval is taken as a foregone conclution providing the details of the get-together can be worked out.

Among the details which may not

(Continued on page 7)

Pickford to Offer Chaplin Her Stock

Mary Pickford said yesterday she will offer her half interest in United Artists to Charles Chaplin before consummating a sale of that interest to anyone else.

Her statement was issued in reply to one by Chaplin in Hollywood Monday declaring he had no part in the negotiations being conducted here by Miss Pickford and has no present intention of disposing of his half interest in U.A.

Miss Pickford emphasized that her negotiations, which have been con-

(Continued on page 6)

Rank-U-I Extend Talent Exchange

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—The signing by J. Arthur Rank of two more Hollywood stars, Joan Fontaine and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., following the announcement of his signing of Bing Crosby and the loan of Robert Siodmak, director, was admited by the British film leader to be a major step in his "international star exchange program" to further the earning ca-

(Continued on page 7)

Tom Waller Leaves UA to Join MPA

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Tom Waller has resigned as publicity manager of United Artists to join the Motion Picture Association as director of information in the New York office, effective Aug. 4, it was announced here today by the MPA. He is to succeed Glen Allvine who has announced plans to enter production.

Tom Waller

Waller joined the industry in 1922 as a reporter for *Moving Picture World*. Subsequently he was publicity director of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, a staff member of *Variety*, and syndicate representative and feature writer for Paramount. He was appointed publicity manager of United Artists in 1945.

In a simultaneous announcement in New York, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA director of advertising-publicity, said Waller's move "meets with our complete support." Waller will remain with UA throughout this month.

'IA' Here Denies Bioff Influence on Coast

IATSE headquarters here reiterated yesterday its Hollywood representative's denial that Willie Bioff is still dictating "IA" policy, and accused the painters' union of participating in a Coast court suit for publicity purposes.

The Conference of Studio Unions, which includes the painters, has filed a $43,000,000 Federal Court suit on the Coast against major studios, the IATSE, and various individuals. The CSU charged in its suit that Bioff has been in Hollywood several months and directs "IA" policy.

A statement made by Roy M. Brewer, "IA" international representative on the Coast, which was released here yesterday, declared that "Bioff has had absolutely no connection with the IATSE and has had nothing whatsoever to do with its affairs since 1941."

'Watch Overhead' Is KMTA Board Advice

KANSAS CITY, July 8.—The board of directors of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, meeting here today, worked on preliminary plans for the convention which has been set for Sept. 30-Oct. 1, at the Phillip Hotel, here. Co-chairmen of the general arrangements committee are Frank Plumlee and Earl Jameson.

The directors, discussing the "general decline in business," advised that exhibitors watch overhead closely and give special attention to fire prevention.

Personal Mention

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Monogram's board chairman, will return to New York from England on July 15 aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warners' Southern division sales manager, is visiting Charlotte and Atlanta from New York.

•

BEN GOETZ, head of M-G-M British productions, will leave Hollywood for New York on Aug. 2, and will sail for England Aug. 8.

•

FREDERICK ADAM MEYERS, Army veteran, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as a salesman in the Memphis branch.

•

WILLIAM H. PINE of the Paramount Pine-Thomas production team, has arrived here from the Coast.

•

W. A. WOODLAW of Portland, veteran exhibitor, recently celebrated his 82nd birthday.

J. H. WISDOM, formerly with the Griffith Amusement Co. in Oklahoma for 17 years, has joined the executive staff of Flexer Theatres which operates 10 Mississippi and Tennessee theatres.

•

WALTER TITUS, Republic vice-president, J. C. SCHULLY, special home office representative, and A. E. FOX, assistant branch operations manager, have been visiting Atlanta.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, field assistant to JACK BYRNES, M-G-M's Eastern division manager, is ill at Albany Hospital, Albany, N. Y.

•

FRANCIS HARMON, New York vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, is expected back in town from Mississippi today.

•

ARNOLD GRANT, United Artists board member, is due back in New York from the Coast at the end of this month.

1st Percentage Suit In Seattle Area

SPOKANE, July 8.—Four distributing companies filed percentage suits today in U. S. District Court, naming P. W. Struppler, said to be the owner and operator of the Cordova Theatre, Pullman, Wash., cited as defendant by Columbia, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Loew's.

The actions are the first percentage suits filed in the territory served by Seattle exchanges.

Attorneys for each distributor plaintiff are: Paul Fetterman of the Seattle firm of Hulbert, Helsell and Paul, and Alan G. Paine of the Spokane firm of Paine, Lowe and Coffin. Sargoy and Stein, New York law firm, are also of counsel for the plaintiffs.

Leo Rose Starts as Marathon Manager

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Leo Rose, general manager of Satenstein Theatrical Enterprises, has checked in at Marathon Pictures as business manager. Marathon, an independent producing unit which will release through Producers Releasing, is also headed by Frank Satenstein.

Companion Bill for Films on Democracy

WASHINGTON, July 8.—Sen. Aiken has introduced in the Senate a companion bill to one recently introduced in the House by Rep. Mundt, to provide $2,225,000 for the U. S. Office of Education to procure and distribute films on Democracy and Americanism.

Louisiana Fox Burns

NEW ORLEANS, July 8.—The Fox Theatre at Jonesboro, La., has burned.

Petrillo Wonders: Is Video All Set?

WASHINGTON, July 8.—James C. Petrillo admitted before a Congressional committee today that he might be making a mistake in denying the use of live music on television programs.

"I don't know if our stand is stupid or smart," he told a House labor subcommittee in its second day of hearings on the activities of the American Federation of Musicians and its president, Petrillo.

"You might be working against the interests of the musicians themselves," Rep. Nixon told Petrillo.

"We could be," the music boss replied. "We make mistakes, too."

When Nixon told him that it might be well if he made an offer now to television broadcasters, Petrillo replied excitedly: "We don't know what to offer. We don't know if television is ready. They can't guarantee anything."

Russell Moon, Film Ad Veteran, Dead

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Funeral services for Russell Moon, former veteran industry advertising-publicity man, will be held here Thursday. Moon, who had been in ill health for several years past, died at Van Nuys on Saturday. He had been associated with Famous Players-Lasky, Poli Theatres, New Haven; Roxy Theatre, New York, and Fox Film Corp. He was 58.

Sidney Wagner Dies, 47

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Sidney Wagner, 47, a member of the American Society of Cinematographers, died of a heart attack en route home from the weekend holiday. A cinematographer for 30 years, his last picture was "The Romance of Rosy Ridge." He is survived by his widow and a son, Sidney, Jr.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S address calling for world cooperation highlights the newsreel parade of events in current releases. Other items include the execution of two Jap war criminals, the Wimbledon tennis matches, and other subjects. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 90—Presiden Truman rebukes Russia for blocking reconstruction. Mystery discs in the sky. Two Jap war criminals executed. Remnants of Jap fleet divided by wartime allies. Newsette: You can put the cat out but she won't stay out. Wimbleton tennis matches. Yachting. Diving from blimp into the Atlantic.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 288—President hits back at Soviet Russia in plea for world peace. Tumultuous scene in Shanghai as Japs pay for war crimes. New air midget. Los Angeles brush fire. U. S. wins at Wimbleton. Aerial divers. Yacht racing. Horse racing.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 91—Denver welcomes Mildred (Babe) Didrickson. President Truman at Monticello. The last mile for two Jap killers. War allies draw for Jap fleet. Wimbleton tennis matches. Amateur rodeo.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 93—President Truman honors Jefferson and Monroe. Geese help weed cotton crop. Camera device gets closeups. DC-6, new Presidential plane. Kramer wins at Wimbleton. Fashion and racing in Paris.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 54—President Truman calls for world cooperation. Specially built plane for President takes off. Demonstration of smallest plane. Jap war criminals executed for atrocities. Daredevil divers jump from blimp into ocean. Orphan kids enjoy police outing at Coney Island. Tennis at Wimbleton.

Balaban Pushes UJA Plans for Luncheon

Formulation of plans for the emergency luncheon-meeting to be held at the Hotel Astor here on July 15 in a move to speed up the United Jewish Appeal drive in the New York amusement fields to meet the needs of European Jewry was advanced here yesterday at a meeting of the steering committee of the entertainment division of the UJA.

Among members of the committee who gathered in the office of Barney Balaban, national chairman of the UJA motion picture division, to confer on the July 15 meeting, at which Al Jolson will be guest of honor, were: Balaban, Jack Cohn, A. Montague, Max A. Cohen, Leonard Goldenson, Irving Greenfield, Bob Weitman, David Weinstock, Emil Friedlander, Matthew Fox and Sam Rinzler. The show business quota in the New York area is $2,100,000.

Tax Advisory Unit To Meet Today

WASHINGTON, July 8.—The next meeting of a citizens group set up to advise the House Ways and Means committee on tax revision is scheduled for tomorrow, with Universal Pictures' chairman J. Cheever Cowdin, a member of the group, slated to attend. The meeting is expected to go over reports on specific tax changes prepared by members.

Cowdin has been working on recommendations to eliminate double taxation of corporate dividends.

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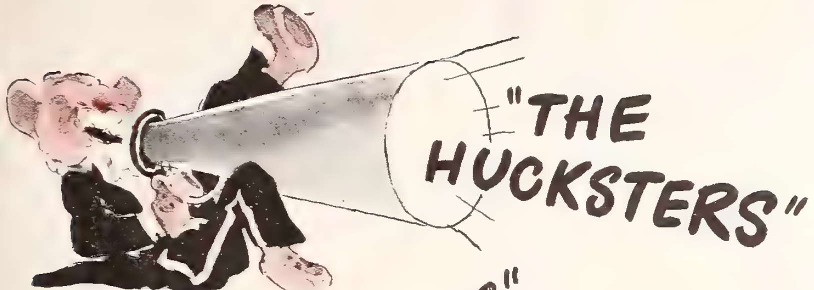
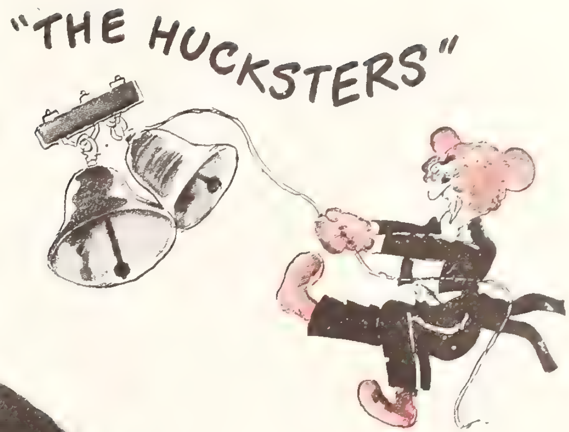

"THE HUCKSTERS"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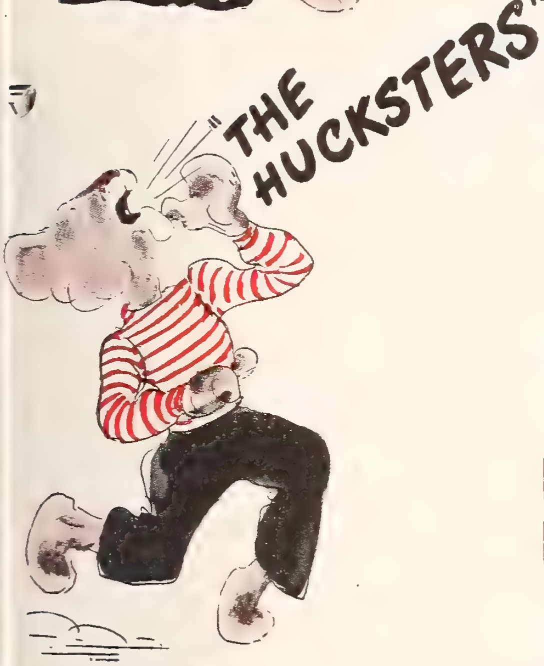
"THE HUCKSTERS"

"THE HUCKSTERS"

Dear Clark Gable and Deborah Kerr:

We're off to a flying start in hundreds of theatres simultaneously!

We're telling the nation about M-G-M's "THE HUCKSTERS" in one of the year's biggest promotions!

Everybody's talking about it! The reviews predict a golden harvest! It's in the press! It's in the air! Your wonderful picture is destined to be the hit of the year throughout this happy land! Congratulations!

Leo of M-G-M

M-G-M presents CLARK GABLE • DEBORAH KERR • Sydney Greenstreet Adolphe Menjou • Ava Gardner • Keenan Wynn • Edward Arnold in "THE HUCKSTERS" • Screen Play by Luther Davis • Adaptation by Edward Chodorov and George Wells • Based on the Novel by Frederic Wakeman Directed by JACK CONWAY • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.

"THE HUCKSTERS"

"THE HUCKSTERS"

"THE HUCKSTERS"

"THE HUCKSTERS"

"THE HUCKSTERS"
BOX OFFICE

"THE HUCKSTERS"

250 THEATRES

throughout New England and New York State taking part August 7 in the most ambitious launching of a picture ever devised! . . . The powerful Yankee Network and other participating stations, totaling 48, beaming out wave on wave of seat-selling features, including six fifteen-minute dramatic shows featuring the stars of the picture! . . . Glamorous personalities everywhere! . . . Special events by the score! . . . All forms of promotion plundered to saturate the area! . . . — AND! — SUPER CLIMAX August 13, with thousands jamming Boston's mammoth Symphony Hall, as leading legal lights and Hollywood stars stage spectacular mock trial! . . . Yes, it's good old "Showmanship Company" RKO, outdoing all past sensational successes — to lead the thundering march of a mighty motion picture to the hearts of America's millions!

THEATRE
THEATRE
THE LONG NIGHT

Greatest Area World Premiere in all Show History!

ROBERT and RAYMOND HAKIM present

HENRY FONDA
BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE
ANN DVORAK

in

THE LONG NIGHT

AN **ANATOLE LITVAK** PRODUCTION

Produced by ROBERT and RAYMOND HAKIM and ANATOLE LITVAK
Directed by ANATOLE LITVAK
Screen Play by JOHN WEXLEY • Based on a Story by JACQUES VIOT

RELEASED BY
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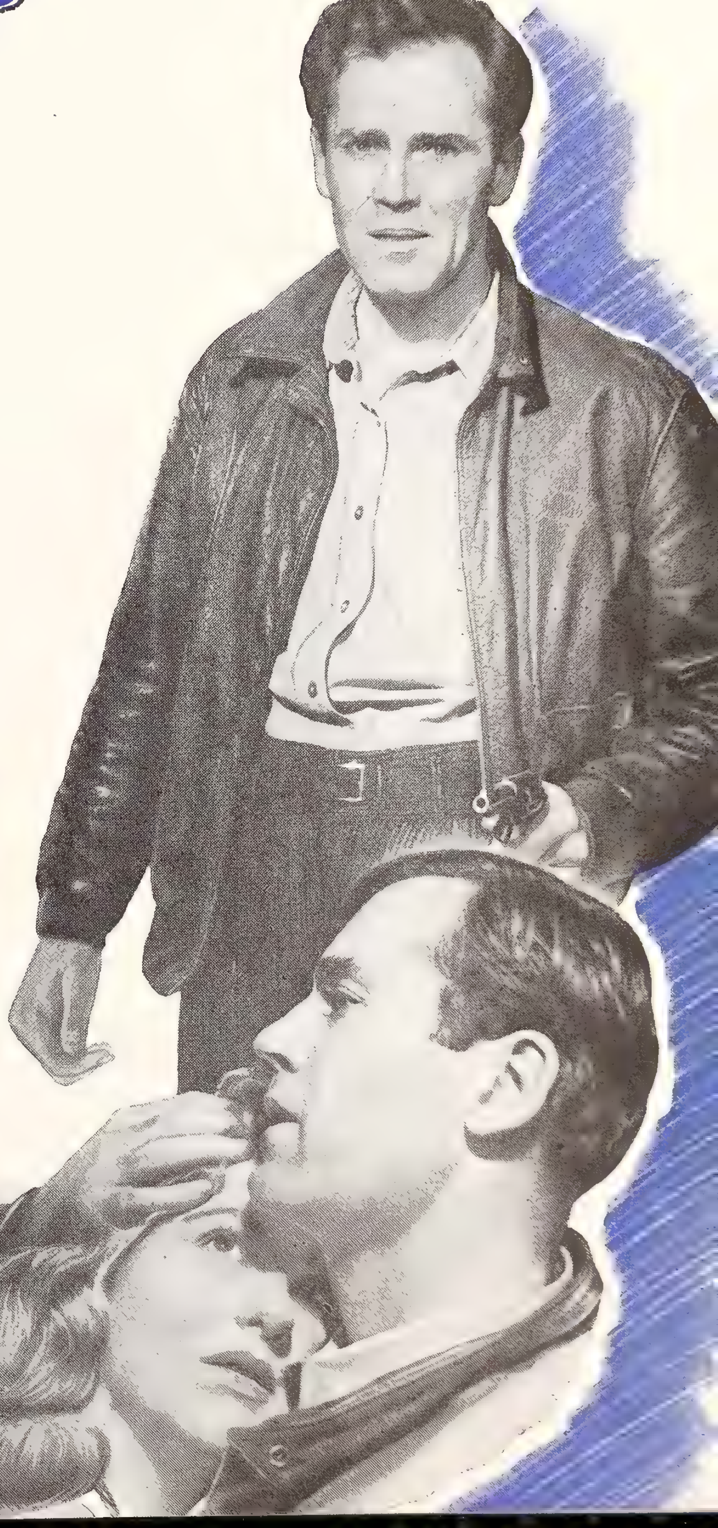

N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Firm

The long holiday weekend was a box-office aid that more than compensated for the exodus to the beaches, with the week's income at New York first-runs running strong; complaints are few. While many sun-worshipers are staying away during weekend matinees, business is good on weekend evenings and theatremen report grosses are showing some gains.

"Moss Rose" with Olsen and Johnson on stage drew a mighty $94,000 in a first week at the Roxy. "Bob, Son of Battle" has been booked to follow on July 16 with Abbott and Costello topping the "in person" bill.

Music Hall revenue soared over the weekend, indicating a huge $150,000 for the second week of "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," plus a stage presentation. The second week of "The Unfaithful" and Vaughn Monroe probably will gross a strong $66,500 for the Strand. The fourth and final week of "Dear Ruth" and Perry Como gave the Paramount an impressive $85,000. "Perils of Pauline" bows in there today.

$16,000 for 'Repeat'

First week of "Repeat Performance" at the Rivoli is not too good on an estimated gross of $16,000. At the Capitol, "Fiesta," with Lena Horne and George Paxton's orchestra, is doing handsomely with $71,000 seen for the second week. "New Orleans" is holding up nicely with $26,000 in

"Ivy" is profitable at the Criterion with about $22,000 expected for a second week. The second week's gross of "Riff Raff" at the Palace is estimated at a moderate $18,000. "Ramrod" is losing some ground in a second and final week at the Globe, at $13,000, and will be succeeded on Saturday by "The Trouble with Women." Second week of "South of Pago Pago" and "The Corsican Brothers" is likely to give the Gotham only $8,000.

"Best Years of Our Lives" chalked up a favorable $23,000 in a 32nd week at the Astor. At the Victoria, a good $16,500 is seen for the fourth week of "Duel in the Sun."

UA, SOPEG Agree

(*Continued from page* 1)

SOPEG will submit demands for $10 weekly or a 30 per cent increase, whichever is higher, to the majors at the end of this month. More than 2,500 employes, including those at UA, would be affected.

Among companies with whom negotiations will begin are Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Paramount, Columbia, Republic and National Screen.

The local will hold a special meeting of rank-and-file leaders tomorrow evening at the Park Central Hotel to discuss negotiations.

British Audiences Are Still Large

London, July 8.—Audiences are still higher than in the pre-war period, despite some patronage losses, Sir Philip Warter declared at the annual meeting here of Associated British Pictures Corp.

Lieut.-Gov. Speaks at Gulf States Meeting

Biloxi, Miss., July 8.—Lieut-Gov. William Snyder of Mississippi was one of the principal speakers at the convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States, which also heard H. A. Cole of Dallas, a director of national Allied States, and R. X. Williams of Oxford, Miss., a director of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. Williams presided.

Maurice Artigues was appointed manager of Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States at the meeting, which closed today with a banquet at the Edgewater Beach Hotel.

Attendance included 70 Mississippi exhibitors, 12 from Louisiana, four from Tennessee and one from Florida.

Withheld French Film To Be Shown in Mex.

With U. S. Treasury officials continuing without explanation to withhold the print of the French film "Le Diable Au Corps," a screening of the film for officials of Universal-International, which financed the Paul Graetz production, will be held on the other side of the Mexican border. A second print is being flown from Paris to Tia Juana, where the screening is scheduled to take place and plans formulated for obtaining release.

Many Deals in Film Company Stocks

Philadelphia, July 8.—Harry Cohn has acquired 3,393 shares of Columbia Pictures common, bringing his holdings to 139,127 shares, according to a Securities Exchange Commission report covering the period between May 11 and June 10.

Also at Columbia, Benjamin B. Kahane reported holding, as of April, 1947, options for 10,000 common Columbia's; A. Montague acquired an option for 10,426 common, and Harry Cohn also acquired 100 shares of preferred.

At Paramount a belated report by Stephen Callaghan, New York, revealed the purchase of 400 shares, making his total 1,400. Stanton Griffis disposed of 780 shares, leaving his holdings at 9,220. Griffis trusts reported holding 23,800 shares.

At Trans Lux, Harry Brandt purchased 26,000, bringing his holdings to 76,215. Helsel, Inc., a holding company, disposed of 3,500 shares; Broad York, Inc., also a holding company, reported a total of 1,000 shares; Harday Operating Co., 1,400 shares, and Mrs. Harry Brandt, 14,700.

At 20th Century-Fox, Murray Silverstone, New York, sold 600 shares, leaving his holdings at 1,300, and reported having 1,200 options for common stock.

At Universal, Preston Davie sold 100 common shares. Matthew Fox, New York, disposed of warrants for 500 common last March and also reported acquiring 3,000 warrants last December. William A. Scully reported selling 450 common.

Herbert J. Yates reported holding 46,918 shares of Associated Motion Pictures Industries through a holding company, Onsrud, Inc., and members of his family reported holding 7,325 shares.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Chicago visitors helped boost receipts this week. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" at the Oriental in its first day's showing broke the house record by grossing almost $12,000 in six performances. Estimated reecipts for the week ended July 7-8:

CHEYENNE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME COD (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Hollywood stars for first day's performance, followed by The Harmonicats and Dale Evans. Gross: $75,000. (Average: $40,000)

IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Hildegarde, Basil Rathbone and Henny Youngman. Gross: $62,000. (Average: $59,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,500)

POSSESSED (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $30,000)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)

WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $26,000)

Pickford to Offer Chaplin Her Stock

(*Continued from page* 1)

ducted with Si Fabian and the First National Bank of Boston, although she did not mention them by name, have concerned her interest alone "and were conducted with the knowledge and concurrence of Mr. Chaplin and his representatives," she said.

"Before consummating any deal," her statement said, "I have a legal obligation to offer my stock to Mr. Chaplin. Even more important to me, however, is the moral obligation to make this offer to a partner and associate of 28 years standing. It has always been my intention, and it is still my intention, to make this offer whenever my negotiations reach the final stage."

If Chaplin declines to purchase Miss Pickford's stock on the same terms offered by Fabian or other prospective purchasers, under U.A. bylaws. Miss Pickford would be free to close the deal then with such bidders. It is not known whether Chaplin would purchase Miss Pickford's interest nor whether, should he refuse to do so, Fabian would be interested in acquiring only a half interest in the company and thus becoming Chaplin's partner. Fabian was out of the city yesterday and could not be reached for questioning but he has indicated in the past that he was interested solely in acquiring control of U.A. and not in becoming an equal or minority partner with others.

New Inspection Service

New Orleans, July 8.—Inspection Service Corp. has been formed here to handle inspection and shipping for distributors.

Name WE Official

Harry Zeppelin has been appointed manager of the Western Electric Co. Inc., of Argentina, it has been announced here by the Westrex Corp.

MPA-Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

ston's assistant assigned to the project, will give exhibitor leaders a full description of plans now formulated and in work and will request their cooperation in carrying out the program. Indications are that cooperation in the form of token rentals will be asked of exhibitors who play the subjects to aid in financing their production and exploitation. An industry coordinator for the program also may be designated at the meeting.

Among those invited to attend the meeting are: Abram F. Myers, chairman of Allied States, and Jack Kirsch, president; Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and Lewen Pizor, chairman; Si Fabian, president of American Theatres Association, and Ted Gamble, chairman; Harry Brandt, president of Independent Theatre Owners of New York; Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent ert H. Poole, executive secretary of Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, and others.

SEE 3 DOZEN STARS IN A SI

36 RKO Features

(*Continued from page* 1)

he delegates that the company's inventory of pictures is the biggest in its history. He reported that the company is in robust health.

Dore Schary, vice-president in charge of production, asserted that "we want to make respectable pictures about a very respectable world." Pleading for courage and enterprise, Schary said that "stories on violence [illegible]ld be against violent people."

Independent affiliates who will release through RKO Radio include: Samuel Goldwyn Productions, Walt Disney Productions, Rainbow Productions (Leo McCarey), Jesse L. Lasky-Walter MacEwen, Robert Riskin Productions, Robert and Raymond Hakim, Independent Artists, Frederick Brisson, Rosalind Russell, (Dudley Nichols), Argosy Pictures (John Ford, Marian C. Cooper), Sol Lesser Productions and ARKO, Inc. (Ford, Cooper).

Nearly 20 Ready

Nearly 20 features on the 1947-48 schedule are already completed. They include: two Samuel Goldwyn productions, two Walt Disney features, Riskin's first production for RKO Radio, a Robert and Raymond Hakim-Anatole Litvak production, two Pat O'Brien's, first of the Argosy pictures for RKO Radio release; the first bi-lingual feature to be made in the company studios in Mexico City, the French-made Maurice Chevalier vehicle, the Eddie Cantor musical, and the first joint RKO-Rank feature to be made in England.

Mulvey Sees Era

(*Continued from page* 1)

is setting in; it is up to us to recognize it and meet it before it sweeps us by."

The Goldwyn executive vehemently attacked "the theory that motion pictures, which are actually individual artistic creations, were nothing more than some sort of packaged goods, to be sold at identical prices regardless of great differences in quality. Ours is the only business that proceeds on this curious basis. I am thoroughly convinced that the public would rather pay higher prices for several hours of fine entertainment than lower prices for an equal number of hours of boredom. The producer who makes a good picture and the exhibitor who books it should not be shackled by a policy which, because it seeks to hit some happy medium, actually puts a premium on mediocrity," Mulvey said.

"Pictures must stand on their own qualities of entertainment, good taste, integrity, honest appeal. When one picture gets a 'free ride' on the strength of another, when policy is deliberately designed to 'average out' overall costs and receipts, when a system is built up which permits a 'take it or leave it' attitude to predominate, you can rest assured that incentive fades away and mediocrity takes its place," he said.

ATA Leaders Favor MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

prove too easy to resolve are selection of officers, appointment of an executive secretary, determination of membership dues and disposal of present assets of the two organizations and withdrawal of ATA from the Supreme Court action for intervention in the New York anti-trust suit.

It is reporetd without confirmation that neither Si Fabian, ATA president, nor Ted Gamble, chairman of the board, is desirous of continuing in top posts with the new organization, but either might be prevailed upon to accept an honorary or less active post. It is reported also that Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, who accepted the post last year more at the insistence of the organization than from choice, also desires to step aside.

Mitchell Wolfson of Wometco Theatres, Miami, is being mentioned as presidential timber for the new organization, but it is doubted whether he would accept. He is a vice-president of the MPTOA and a member of the ATA.

Robert W. Coyne, executive secretary of the ATA, reportedly will relinquish the post to enter theatre operation, probably with Gamble, whose organization is being expanded. Accordingly, reports are that a search is being made for candidates for the post in anticipation of the affiliation being agreed upon.

Herman Levy, general counsel and legislative representative for MPTOA, is slated to be continued in that post for the new organization, should it materialize. The election of officers and directors of the new organization would immediately follow an agreement being reached on the affiliation.

A condition of the affiliation is that ATA dithwraw from the intervention action in the New York suit. Loew's and RKO Theatres, both members of MPTOA, would withdraw from the new organization if that condition were not met. Moreover, MPTOA directors and member units last winter vetoed by ballot a proposal to intervene in the anti-trust suit and voted to appear as *amicus curiae* instead. This was done.

Loew's and RKO withdrew from ATA when it sought to become a party to the suit by intervening.

If ATA now agrees to withdraw from the intervention action in order to make possible the affiliation with MPTOA, the intervention action now before the Supreme Court would not be ended, as the Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association also are parties to the action and presumably would continue it.

Headquarters of the new organization would be in ATA offices in the Paramount Building here and the MPTOA would relinquish its quarters at 1600 Broadway, the building recently purchased by Loew's, Inc., and which, consequently, MPTOA will have to vacate soon whether or not the affiliation is effected.

No name for the new organization has been decided upon yet but among names suggested is the American Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association. Objections heard to this are that it adds a word to the already overlong MPTOA tag, whereas it would be desirable to shorten the latter by two or three words.

Unger Sees Break

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing that the industry at this time is experiencing "the worst effects" of the period.

Over a trans-Atlantic telephone hook-up, Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, spoke to the delegates from London. After an informal talk, Sears said that he did not know how much longer his mission of selling United Artists product to the world would keep him abroad.

Unger will conduct all sessions of the three-day meeting, assisted by Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager, and Maury Orr, Western sales manager.

Goldwyn, Astor

(*Continued from page* 1)

Walter Mitty" will replace the theatre's current tenant, "Best Years of Our Lives," which also is Goldwyn's. "The Bishop's Wife" will be next, to open around next Jan. 1. "Best Years" will have played 38 weeks.

Until a few months ago, Goldwyn shared playing time at the Astor with David O. Selznick on an alternating basis.

20th-Fox Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Gehring, assistant sales chief, and Edward Collins, Morris Kaplan, Peter Levathes, Sam Shain, Lem Jones, and Martin Moskowitz. The Southern division will be headed by Harry G. Ballance, Division manager, with headquarters in Atlanta; Paul Wilson, Southeast district manager, and Phil Longdon, Southwest manager, with headquarters in Dallas.

The meeting is the second of a series of three, the first having been held Monday in Milwaukee, and the final one is set for July 17-18 at the Carlton Hotel in Washington.

Time Extension in Golin Trust Suit

CHICAGO, July 8.—Additional time, until the third week in August, has been granted the majors and other defendants to reply to the $675,000 triple-damage anti-trust suit filed on June 17 by Charles Golin in behalf of his DeLuxe Theatre Corp. Golin cited damages of $200,000 from 1937 and seeks an injunction to restrain the defendants from further alleged illegal acts.

Rank-U-I

(*Continued from page* 1)

pacity of British films in the Western Hemisphere.

William Goetz, in charge of Universal-International production activities, declared here today that, "We are doing all within our power to fulfill our agreement with Rank for a coordinated interchange-of-talent program and we will shortly announce the names of a number of leading British personalities, as well as other talent who will be coming to Hollywood to make films for us. We feel that this interchange of stars and other talent will enhance the box-office potential of both British and American programs in the world market."

The Joan Fontaine agreement was made between Rank and William Dozier, president of Rampart Productions, which is owned by Dozier and his wife, Miss Fontaine. Fairbanks, Jr., made his deal with Rank at the Universal-International Studios, where Rank has made his office during his Hollywood visit.

Rank Describes Hollywood Competition as 'Clean, Fair'

HOLLYWOOD, July 8.—Hollywood competition has been "clean and fair," J. Arthur Rank said in a radio interview here today.

Rank declared: "I came to Hollywood for my first visit in 1945 and freely stated that my associates and I intended to go into competition with Hollywood, not fight, but competition, clean and hard sportsmanship in business. Now, two years after, our competition is keener than ever all over the world. Yet at all times . . . it has been clean and fair competition."

In a letter to Rank printed in the preview program, Charles Skouras said, "National Theatres and Fox West Coast Theatres will insure your films chosen for American presentation the same opportunity we offer American films. It is up to your producers to create entertainment which will justify this opportunity. I am confident under your leadership, your organization will attain the high goal you have set for English production."

To Protest Reissues

(*Continued from page* 1)

gram to deal with this question and "to reclaim for the workers, technicians and artists who originally created the films a proper share of the profits from their reissue."

Formulation of such a program will be discussed at the studio conference, to be held at the headquarters here of the SWG.

It is pointed out by a SWG economic program committee that the number of reissued films has pyramided in recent months. "An analysis of a recent week of motion picture exhibition in the New York metropolitan area showed that out of 224 pictures playing in the area 105 were reissues and 29 were foreign films," says the SWG.

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Para. Asks for Tax Relief on Divorcement

Tax - Free Liquidation Clause Sought in Bill

Washington, July 9.—A Congressional committee was asked today to include tax-free liquidation provisions for theatre divorcement in the proposed general revision of the Internal Revenue laws.

Leslie M. Rapp, representing Paramount Pictures, told the House Ways and Means Committee that Paramount would need relief from the tax now in force on disposition of property if the company carried out the terms of the New York District Court decree regarding theatre divorcement.

Pointing out that legislation is already in effect granting tax relief in cases where there is involuntary disposal of property—such as when prop-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Appoint Committees For KMTA Meeting

Kansas City, July 9.—Committees have been appointed for the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association convention, Sept. 30-Oct. 1, as follows. Program committee: Homer Strowig, C. E. Cook, Elmer Bills, Senn Lawler; registration: Fred Meyn, Virgil Harbison; tickets: Sam Abend, George Baker; welcoming: Ralph Larned, chairman; Harry Till, Mrs. T. H. Slothowej, R. R. Biechele; favors: Herman Illmer.

The board of directors met on Tuesday to plan for the convention, which will be held at the Phillip Hotel. Co-chairmen of the general arrangements committee are Frank Plumlee and Earl Jameson.

British Production Halt Seen Averted

London, July 9.—Production is being maintained at studios here, despite the walkout of studio plasterers which originally threatened a production halt. New personnel is expected to be recruited outside the industry.

Famous Gets Korda Films for Canada

Toronto, July 9. — Famous Players-Canadian Corp. has secured Canadian exhibition rights, through 20th Century-Fox, of all British productions of Sir Alexander Korda for an unstated term of years, it was disclosed here today by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of the corporation.

Blumenstock Calls Two-Day N.Y. Meet

Mort Blumenstock

Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity for Warner Brothers, yesterday called a special two-day meeting of all of the company's distribution and exhibition home office and field public relations and advertising representatives, to be held in New York on Aug. 7-8.

Home office executives participating in the meeting will be Harry Goldberg, director of theatre advertising and publicity; Gil Golden, national advertising manager; Larry Golob, Eastern publicity manager; William W. Brumberg, manager of the field staff, and others.

Among items on the agenda of the two-day session will be an outline of plans for handling "Life With Father," which will have its premiere next month at Skowhegan, Me.

Distribution department field representatives attending will include George Bannan, Dallas; Lucia Perrigo and Frank Casey, Chicago; Ira Epstein, Cincinnati; George Fishman, Philadelphia; Glenn Ireton, Toronto;

(*Continued on page 6*)

2 Percentage Suits Filed by Loew's, RKO

Two percentage suits were filed yesterday in New York Federal District Court by Loew's and RKO against the Parkway Theatre Corp., owner of the Parkway Theatre at Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and Nathan Steinberg and Leonard Finkelstein, officers and directors.

Louis Nizer represents the film companies.

Commons Agrees to Impose Films Duty Based on Earnings

London, July 9.—As a result of a finance bill debate in the House of Commons today, it was agreed to give power to impose duty on foreign films based on the films' earnings. Hugh Dalton reiterated that he wanted the authority for a later date, if necessary. Unanimous support of the production workers is necessary for the duty imposition stand, and if the workers do not sanction it, theatres may close as a result. Imposition of the duty would mean the end of double-bill programs.

British films labor leader Tom O'Brien said that if American films are stopped it would mean that J. Arthur Rank would dominate not only his own theatres but independents as well.

Michael Foote said he would prefer the actual cut be effected tonight, and added that he thought delay represented excessive tenderness towards

(*Continued on page 5*)

62 'IA' Locals Will Discuss Taft Bill

District No. 10, IATSE, comprising 62 locals in New York State, will hold its annual convention next Sunday in the Hotel Hamilton, Utica, N. Y. Host to the convention will be projectionists' local No. 337 of Utica.

High on the agenda will be the Taft-Hartley act, and its effect on 'IA' contracts. It is expected that 'IA' attorneys will present an analysis of the act and outline a program to meet problems raised by the new law.

Officials of the locals will hold a preliminary meeting on Saturday,

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO Radio Closes Sales Meet Here

The importance of cooperating with foreign film producers was stressed yesterday by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign operations, at the closing session of the 16th annual sales convention of RKO Radio at the Waldorf-Astoria here.

Reisman urged support of good films, regardless of their source, and added that it was "important not only to our company and to the industry but to our own country."

S. Barret McCormick, advertising-publicity director, declared that the company intended to follow the "same

(*Continued on page 5*)

UA Presidency Slated for George Bagnall

Kelly, Executive V.-P.; Pickford Abandons Sale

Mary Pickford yesterday terminated all negotiations for the sale of her half interest in United Artists and immediately afterward she informed the company's sales meeting in progress at the Waldorf-Astoria here that George Bagnall, vice-president of U. A. and its Hollywood production liaison, is expected to be named president of the company succeeding Edward C. Raftery, who is resigning.

At the same time, it was indicated that in line with previously announced plans, Arthur W. Kelly, business representative of Charles Chaplin, co-owner of UA with Miss Pickford, will be elected executive vice-president of the company.

An executive committee will be named to assist Bagnall, whose production duties will keep him on the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Miss. Fails to Join Gulf States Allied

Biloxi, Miss., July 9.—No action was taken on the proposal for the Mississippi Theatre Owners Ass'n to join the newly formed Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States at the meetings of the two organizations which closed here late yesterday.

The decision on joining the new organization was left to the individual. A small number did join Gulf States Allied.

The Mississippi organization elected Max A. Connett of Newton, Miss.,

(*Continued on page 6*)

NYC Begins Survey Of Industry Needs

New York City will make every effort to bring a substantial part of the nation's film industry here, Mayor O'Dwyer announced yesterday.

He said that Edward C. Maguire, director of the city's division of labor relations, would survey the needs of the industry in New York and would submit a report and recommendations in about three weeks.

Britain Gets Another 150 Millions of Loan

Washington, July 9. — Britain has withdrawn another $150,000,000 of its $3,750,000,000 U. S. Loan, the Treasury reveals.

Withdrawals to date total $2,200,000,000, and at the present rate the entire fund will be exhausted in another nine months. This means the loan will have lasted about 21 months, instead of the three years for which it was originally intended.

Balaban, Others to Rank Meet Tomorrow

Paramount's delegation to the New Orleans dinner-meeting with J. Arthur Rank, called by E. V. Richards for tomorrow, will be headed by Barney Balaban, president. The home office group also will incude Leonard Goldenson, vice-president in charge of theatre operations, and vice-presidents Robert Weitman, Leon Netter and Edward L. Hyman.

Paramount theatre partners and associates slated to attend are Robert Wilby, M. A. Lightman, William Jenkins, Ed Rowley, Earl Hudson, Harry French, Harry Lustgarten, Chet Stoddard, Julius Gordon, A. H. Blank, J. H. Harrison, and Harry Nace, Jr.

Rank Signs Colbert In New Talent Deal

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Another talent deal, the signing of Claudette Colbert, was disclosed here today by J. Arthur Rank.

Rank said that he had arranged through William Goetz, in charge of production at Universal-International, to borrow Miss Colbert for one film to be made next summer in England. She will first appear in U-I's "Midnight Lace," and will then go abroad.

Academy Honors Rank With Life Membership Card

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences presented J. Arthur Rank with a gold life membership card in the Academy at a luncheon here today for Rank.

"We admire the human qualities that distinguish you not only as a producer but as a man," said Jean Hersholt, Academy president, "and it is with this admiration the Academy extends to you a life membership."

St. Louis, New Haven, K.C. Top Thomas Drive

At the halfway mark in the 18-week PRC Harry Thomas sales drive, William Sherman's St. Louis branch is in first place, closely collowed by New Haven in second and Kansas City in third.

New 20th-Jessel Deal

HOLLYWOOD, July 9. — Twentieth Century-Fox has given George Jessel a new five-year producing contract at an increased figure.

Personal Mention

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

JACK COHEN, Eastern district manager of National Screen Service, and JOLENE MUSGRAVE, of Detroit, were married last Sunday in Atlantic City.

•

MORRIS SMEAD, Council Bluffs, Ia., theatre owner, and GRACE ABBOTT, of Los Angeles, were married on the Coast recently.

•

M. N. WOLF, assistant to M-G-M exhibitor relations director H. M. RICHEY, is due in New York today from Boston.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic's assistant general sales manager, left here yesterday by plane for Indianapolis, Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

JAMES V. O'GARA, Republic's Eastern division manager, will be in Cincinnati today from New York.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, returned here yesterday from Washington.

•

DOROTHY DAY, fan magazine contact for M-G-M, will leave New York for the Coast on July 17.

•

KENNETH R. MELLGREN, World War II veteran, has joined PRC as a salesman in Seattle.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warners' Eastern division sales chief, was in Pittsburgh from New York yesterday.

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram president; GEORGE D. BURROWS, vice-president; HAROLD MIRISCH, vice-president, and SCOTT R. DUNLAP, assistant to the president, will leave the Coast by train for Oklahoma City at the weekend.

•

J. ARTHUR RANK, accompanied by MRS. RANK and JOCK LAWRENCE, vice-president of the Rank Organization, left the Coast by train yesterday for New Orleans.

•

HARRY BRYMAN, assistant coordinator in the British Empire for Loew's International, will leave here by plane today for a three-month tour of South Africa.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International's Eastern sales chief, will be in Boston today and New Haven tomorrow.

•

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, will leave Hollywood by plane today for New York.

•

DAVID NIVEN is due here Saturday from Hollywood. He will sail for England on the *Queen Elizabeth* July 17.

•

BOB HILTON, Chicago district manager of Altec, is in New York.

•

NATE BLUMBERG, Universal president, is en route to New Orleans from Hollywood.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK is en route to New York from the Coast by train.

Selznick Canadian Sales Unit Formed

DOVER, Del., July 9.—The Selznick Studio Releasing Division of Canada, Ltd., has filed a charter with the Secretary of State's office. The new company's stated purpose is to deal in motion pictures.

Selznick's new Canadian company will sell Selznick Releasing Organization product in the Dominion, as SRO is doing in the U. S.

Bracken in Stoll's Top W. E. Post

Stanley Bracken, executive vice-president of Western Electric, has been elected president to succeed Clarence G. Stoll on his retirement next Sept. 30. Stol has been president since 1940 and his retirement ends 44 years with W. E.

Robins to Selznick

Seymour Robins, known in New York advertising art circles for the past 15 years, will leave for Hollywood today where he will function as general art director of the advertising-publicity department of the Selznick Studios and all Selznick enterprises, under the direction of Paul MacNamara.

Senate Unit Forsakes U. S. Film Division

WASHINGTON, July 9.—The Senate Appropriations Committee voted today to deny any funds whatever to the Library of Congress' Motion Picture Division.

This deals a final blow to the unit, already reeling from the action of the House, which voted it only $85,000 of the $370,500 it sought for operations during the coming year. The Committee's action must still be approved by the Senate and, if approved, then goes to conference with the House, where some or all of the funds may be restored.

AFL Taft Bill Action

WASHINGTON, July 9.—Leaders of 105 American Federation of Labor unions who met here today to consider union operation under the Taft-Hartley Labor Act, have appointed a committee of five to draft a declaration of policy. Union heads will review the declaration within the next two days, it was announced. Representatives of the IATSE, the American Federation of Musicians and the building trades were on hand.

New Managers in K. C.

KANSAS CITY, July 9. — Edward Crouch has been named manager of the Fiesta Theatre here, while James W. Chapman will manage the Southtown.

Eyssell Subject of Magazine Article

An article in the July issue of *Liberty* describes G. S. Eyssell, managing director of the Radio City Music Hall, as "the world's most potent individual movie exhibitor," and continues with a description of Eyssell's likes, dislikes and background.

"Hollywood defers to him with all the nervous charm of a foreign diplomat seeking a loan," the author, John Chapman, writes, because "playing [illegible] Music Hall puts the seal of appr[illegible] on a picture."

According to the article, the Music Hall plays to 7,000,000 patrons a year, and takes in from $110,000 to $125,000 a week. It quotes Eyssell as saying: "All people want is good entertainment. It may be comedy, musical, spectacle, cartoon, love-stuff or think-stuff—just as long as it is good."

Pick Committees for Dealers' Convention

CHICAGO, July 9.—Arrangements are being completed for the annual convention of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, to be held at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, Sept. 25-29, according to Ray G. Colvin, president. The association will hold its convention in conjunction with the national exhibit of theatre equipment shown by TESMA.

Committees appointed include: Arrangements, Henry Dusman, Elmer Brient, Joe Hornstein; banquet and entertainment, William Kunzeman, Ray Busler, Phil Wicker.

Schwalberg in South For 'Stallion' Runs

NEW ORLEANS, July 9. — Plans for a day-and-date world premiere in mid-August for Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor "Red Stallion," in at least 100 first-run theatres in key cities were announced here today by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L's vice-president and general sales manager, now in New Orleans to set final plans for the premiere with E. V. Richards, president of the Paramount-Richards Circuit, and Robert J. O'Donnell, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Circuit.

Four Pagnol Films Due from France

Zola's "Nais," which was produced, directed and written by Marcel Pagnol, will open at the Ambassador Theatre here in September. In December, Pagnol's film trilogy, "Fanny," "Marius" and "Caesar," will open; all Pagnol presented in the U. S. by Siritzky International.

Pagnol is expected to come here from France in October to direct the stage version of his "Topaze."

'Hamilton Woman' Benefit

All receipts of the Eastern encore premiere of "That Hamilton Woman," at the Ambassador Theatre, New York, on Wednesday, July 16, will be donated to the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund, according to Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, distributor, and Leon Siritzky, the theatre's owner.

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List Basis of RKO Feature Program

Features completed, in work, or planned from which RKO Radio's 1947-48 releases will be made up, in addition to those listed yesterday, are as follows:

Other 1947-'48 pictures are: "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," Goldwyn's "The [illegible] Years of Our Lives," "Crossfire," [illegible] Secret Life of Walter Mitty," "The [illegible] Night," "Magic Town," Disney's "Fun and Fancy Free," in Technicolor; Disney's re-release of "The Wonderful Adventures of Bambi"; "If You Knew Susie"; "Tycoon," in Technicolor; "The Fugitive"; "So Well Remembered," first J. Arthur Rank-RKO Radio picture.

Other titles from which new season releases will be chosen are:

Also, "Riff-Raff" and "Fighting Father Dunne," "Indian Summer," "Out of the Past," "Man About Town," "The Pearl."

Leo McCarey will release another Rainbow production, "Good Sam," directed by McCarey, co-starring Gary Cooper and Ann Sheridan.

"The Velvet Touch," first feature of two from Independent Artists, will star Rosalind Russell. The second will start in February, and will be written and directed by Dudley Nichols.

"Mr. Joseph Young of Africa" will be the first from ARKO, Inc.

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," starring Cary Grant, Loretta Young and David Niven, and "Mr. Blanding Builds His Dream House," starring Grant and Myrna Loy, are other new season releases.

Features now before the cameras are: "I Remember Mama," a George Stevens production; "The Miracle of the Bells," produced by Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen; "Return of the Badmen"; "Your Red Wagon"; "Roughshod" and "Tarzan and the Mermaids," a Sol Lesser production.

Dudley Nichols' "Electra"

Dudley Nichols' production of "Mourning Becomes Electra," is completed and in the editing rooms. Also being edited is "Memory of Love."

Besides Goldwyn's "The Bishop's Wife," Loretta Young will star in "The Dark Medallion," and also in "Rachel," a short story by Howard Fast.

"Berlin Express" will be produced by Bert Granet in Berlin.

Joseph Cotten and Robert Mitchum will star in "The Harder They Fall," based on the novel by Budd Schulberg. Frederic Ullman, Jr., will produce "The Window," at RKO Pathe's studios here.

"The Set-Up" will be producer Richard Goldstone's initial picture for RKO Radio.

Jane Greer will have one of the two top feminine roles in "Stations West," in which Dick Powell will star, and she will co-star with Robert Mitchum in "Out of the Past," and with Robert Young and Susan Hayward in "They Won't Believe Me."

Others

Also, "Race Street," co-starring George Raft and William Bendix; "The Boy With Green Hair," to be produced by Adrian Scott; and "Seven Keys to Baldpate."

Tim Holt will star in two Zane Grey westerns, "Under the Tonto Rim" and "Wild Horse Mesa." as well as in four Westerns with historical backgrounds. "Dick Tracy Meets Karloff," and two additional Tracys; "The Road to Carmichael's," and "Mystery in Mexico," to be produced in Mexico City, and "Hirohito's Children."

In preparation are the following: "The Robe," to be produced by Frank Ross, in Technicolor; "Ivanhoe," second of the RKO-J. Arthur Rank releases, in Technicolor; "Lewis and Clark," in Technicolor; "The Pittsburgh Escapade," co-starring Barbara Bel Geddes and Melvyn Douglas; "The White Tower," directed by Edward Dmytryk; "The Captain Was a Lady"; "Simon Bolivar"; "Mortgage on Life"; "Education of the Heart"; "Beyond All Doubt," based on a short story by Billy Rose.

'New Orleans' Holdovers

"New Orleans," which is now in its third week at the Winter Garden, New York, has been held over for at least one week in every key-city engagement to date, according to Jules Levey-United Artists. The film opens day and date at the Lincoln and Miami Theatres, Miami Beach, Friday, and one week later at the Capitol and Town Theatre, Miami.

RKO Radio Sales Meet Ends

(*Continued from page 1*)

aggressive campaigns" as in the past, on the theory that it "pays off at the box-office."

"Our research shows," McCormick said, "that pre-selling is a most important factor in box-office results." He said that campaigns on 10 unreleased pictures already have been set and that work on campaigns for the balance of the season's releases will be started immediately.

Robert Mochrie, general sales manager, who presided, stressed that the sales force should never forget the important part advertising and publicity plays in the selling of pictures.

A potential television audience of 55,000,000, all of them theatregoers, is seen by Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., within the next 12 to 18 months. In an address before the RKO convention yesterday, Austrian drew this conclusion, he said in effect, from the number of television stations now in operation (11 in eight cities), in addition to 54 which are expected to be on the air before the next year and a half.

Other speakers at yesterday's sessions included John M. Whitaker, RKO vice-president; Leon Bamberger, sales promotion manager; Perry Lieber, studio publicity head; Terry Turner, head of the field force, and Emerson Foote of the Foote, Cone & Belding agency.

Ullman to Produce for RKO; Pathe News Sale Possible

Frederic Ullman, Jr., president of RKO Pathe News, is scheduled to produce one or more pictures at the RKO studio in Hollywood but he denied reports yesterday that he would resign as head of the newsreel, in consequence.

Several years ago Ullman undertook a similar assignment at the RKO studio and maintained his association with the reel during that period.

Warner Bros. indicated interest in buying the newsreel from RKO to obtain manpower and facilities needed for its own newsreel announced for next autumn also could make the election of a successor to Ullman inadvisable now and while the Warner interest in acquiring it remains alive, it was pointed out.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, said yesterday there is nothing definite concerning a sale of Pathe News at this time.

National Screen Service Host to RKO Sales Force

National Screen Service was host last night to RKO Radio sales personnel attending the company's sales convention at the Waldorf-Astoria here.

Smith Makes Changes In RKO Chi. Staff

CHICAGO, July 9.—Frank Smith Chicago division manager of RKO Theatres, has made the following promotions and changes in the circuit in this area: Jerry Shinbach, former city manager at Columbus, has been made assistant to Smith. In addition, Shinbach will manage the RKO Palace here, succeeding Lou Mayer, who takes over as manager of Chicago's RKO Grand. William Briscoe, who was the previous RKO Grand manager, goes to Kansas City, as house manager of the Orpheum, assisting Lawrence Newman, manager. Briscoe will also manage the Main Street in Kansas City when it reopens after alterations. Pete Kelty, former assistant manager of the Palace here, and recently assistant at the Orpheum, Kansas City, has been appointed manager of the Orpheum in Champaign.

RKO Switches Rogers

CHARLOTTE, July 9.—Harry Rogers RKO salesman here, has been transferred to Atlanta, Ga. He is replaced by Roger Mitchell who operates the Branwood Theatre in West Greenville, S. C.

Nelson Helping Mexico

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has undertaken to work out two problems affecting Mexico's economy. During his recent visit with President Miguel Aleman in Mexico City, Nelson agreed to do this. Nelson will fly to Washington tomorrow to fulfill an appointment with President Truman on Friday. Nelson has emphasized that his assistance to Aleman is apart from his SIMPP position.

Wallace in New Post

MEMPHIS, July 9.—Cliff Wallace, associated with the film industry for 15 years, has been named branch manager of Kay Film Exchange here.

Business to 'Zoom' In '48, Schine Says

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., July 9.—The country is now in a recession which will run for about a year and then the film business and other lines will pick up considerably. This is the opinion of J. Meyer Schine, president of the 150-theatre Schine Circuit.

Schine thinks the present recession is due to the fact that earnings of American workers have been reduced. Since there is less money to spend, he said, the public is shopping for pictures, and that while the best productions are being patronized, theatregoers are staying away from "average" or "poor" pictures.

When the recession ends, he said. pent up purchasing power will reassert itself, and business will "zoom." Although patronage will not at that time reach the wartime peak, he holds. it will be around the 1943-44 level "which was very prosperous for our industry." He doubts whether reducing admissions at this time would improve the present situation.

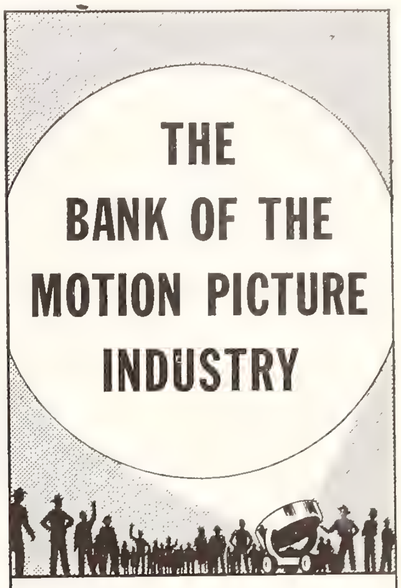
Impose Films Duty

(*Continued from page 1*)

Rank.

The opposition believes it would be more satisfactory to raise the quota, but that since there are insufficient studio technicians here there is no alternative. Opposition speakers regretted criticism of Rank, asserting that Rank is doing "great things for the British industry."

A government spokesman emphasized that the United Kingdom does not want to lose American good will and added that if duties are imposed steps will be taken to prevent passing of the expense to exhibitors or the public. The measure is regarded as sheer necessity to save dollars. It is said the government will attempt to get voluntary price freezing, but, failing that, the powers will be used.



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Jackson Park Asks Increase in Damages

CHICAGO, July 9.—With the legal battles in the Jackson Park anti-trust suit continuing, the plaintiff claims that damages also continue, in consequence of which it asks that $600,000 compensation be added to the $360,000 already awarded.

Meanwhile the nine defendants, which include five distributors and Balaban and Katz and the Warner circuits, yesterday asked the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here for a rehearing on the case. Miles Seeley, defense attorney, said that if the rehearing is refused his clients would take the case to the U. S. Supreme Court.

UA Presidency

(*Continued from page* 1)

Coast most of the time. The executive committee is expected to function as the principal administrative body for the company in the East. Kelly is expected to be included in its membership, although Raftery and Gradwell Sears, UA vice-president, are not. The elections will take place at an early meeting of the company's board, if Chaplin concurs.

Sources close to the company expressed the belief yesterday that the new arrangements are of an interim nature and that, while they may be continued for several months, permanent management will be sought eventually.

Reasons for the collapse of Miss Pickford's negotiations with Si Fabian, Eastern circuit operator, and Serge Semenenko, of the First National Bank of Boston, for the sale of her half interest in the company were not disclosed. The sale was reported to have been on the verge of closing late Tuesday, and Fabian had gone to Miss Pickford's hotel here prepared to sign the papers, only to be told upon his arrival that the deal was off.

In a joint statement issued by Miss Pickford and Fabian yesterday announcing the "discontinuance" of the negotations it was stated only that "certain insurmountable legal hurdles were encountered which make the proposed deal impractical. The termination of negotiations is completely amicable among all parties and has been concluded with mutual admiration and regard," the statement concluded.

'IA' To Discuss Taft

(*Continued from page* 1)

with Thomas Murtha, chairman of the district, presiding.

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the 'IA', who had been invited to attend, is still in London. Representing Walsh will be Thomas J. Shea, assistant international president, and William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer.

'Kilroy' Opens Saturday

World premiere of the Dick Irving Hyland-Sid Luft production, "Kilroy Was Here," has been set at the Scott Theatre, Odessa, Texas, on Saturday. Jackie Cooper, who co-stars with Jackie Coogan in the comedy being released by Monogram, will make a personal appearance in conjunction with the opening.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Grosses reflect the absence of holiday-ers pretty generally. Weather was just too good for people to stay home to go to theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 9:

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100)

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18 800)

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA-Stromberg)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)

DISHONORED LADY (UA-Stromberg) — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11.500. (Average: $14,200)

DISHONORED LADY (UA-Stromberg) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,400)

DISHONORED LADY (UA-Stromberg) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4.500. (Average: $4,700)

FIESTA (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,100)

FIESTA (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2.300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15 000. (Average: $13,300)

FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $22,600)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) — CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18.200)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,600)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,200)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $19,800)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8.500. (Average: $20,800)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,900)

IVY (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $7,200)

IVY (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5.000. (Average: $9,600)

IVY (U-I)—Studio (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,100)

IVY (U-I) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) — UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,800)

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.) and THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (3,596) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $26,600)

THE PERFECT MARRIAGE (Para.) and THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c - 60c - 80c - $1.00). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $16,100)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15.500. (Average: $18,200)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $15,500)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,900)

Blumenstock Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Art Moger, Boston; Herb Pickman, New York; Richard Stephens, San Francisco; Don Walker, Kansas City; J. D. Woodard, Atlanta.

Theatre ad men present will be Marcel Brazee, Oklahoma City; E. C. Callow, Philadelphia; Dan Finn, New Haven; George Kelly, Newark; Al Kvool, Milwaukee; Frank La Falce, Washington; Frank McCarthy, Memphis; Charles Smakwitz, Albany; J. Knox Strachan, Cleveland; James Totman, Pittsburgh; John McManus, Los Angeles.

Miss. Fails to Join

(*Continued from page* 1)

as president, succeeding R. X. Williams, who has headed the organization for many years. Other officers elected were: W. S. Taylor, Laurel, Miss., J. E. Alford, Jr., McComb, and D. F. Blissard, Oklahoma, vice-presidents, and E. W. Clinton, Monticello, secretary-treasurer.

H. A. Cole, Dallas, a national Allied States director, presented the case for Gulf States Allied in endeavoring to win the Mississippi membership. W. A. Prewitt, Jr., president of Gulf States Allied, also addressed yesterday's session.

Broidy Sets Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, July 9.—"Louisiana," Monogram film starring Gov. Jimmie Davis, will have its world premiere in Shreveport, La., during the week of Oct. 6-13, it was announced here today by Steve Broidy, Monogram head.

Paramount Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

erty is condemned for Government use—Rapp asked that the theory of such provisions "should be applied to any sale or liquidation necessary or appropriate to carry out the court's decree."

Rapp described three alternative courses by which Paramount could carry out the terms of the decree requiring five film companies to divest themselves of theatres in which their stock is more than five per cent and less than 95 per cent by Dec. 31, 1948. All of these transactions would be subject to a conversion tax, Rapp said, under existing U. S. law.

Major Interest

"Paramount has by far the major interest in remedial legislation," Rapp stated, since it has interests in approximately 1,000 theatres affected by the decree.

Declaring that his was only a preliminary appearance, Rapp asked permission to submit a more detailed memorandum to the committee and to the joint committee on taxation, also to the Treasury. He also asked for a conference with the joint committee and treasury staffs so that he could propose more concrete legislation to them.

'Hucksters' Opens Today

M-G-M's "The Hucksters" will have its world premiere today at the Empire Theatre, London. It is also slated to open in more than 400 American cities next week, and is tentatively scheduled to have its Sydney, Australia, opening on July 24 at the St. James Theatre.

Moments of Fury
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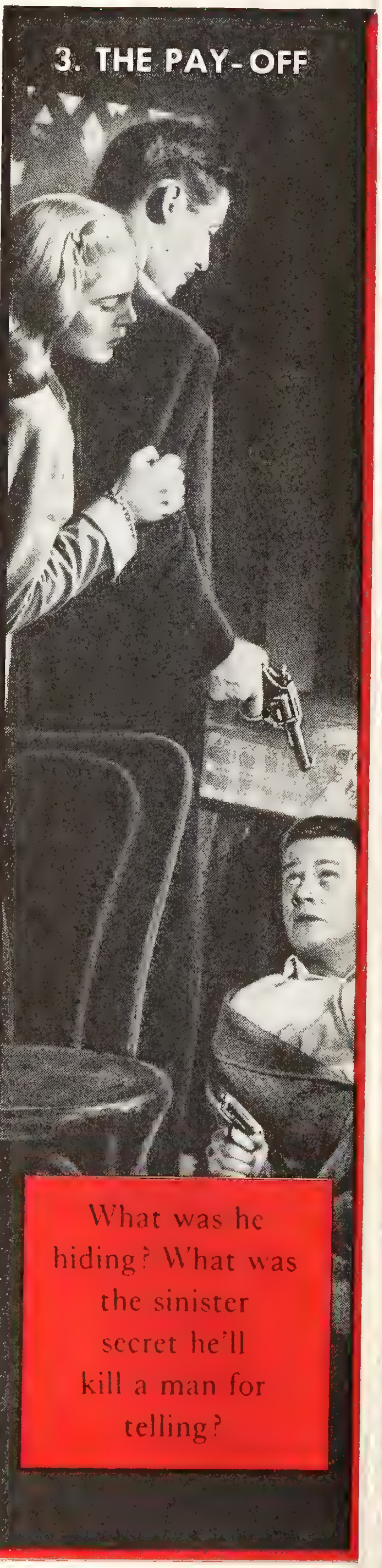
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Chaplin Veteos Management Plan for U.A.

Mary Pickford to Coast To Consult with Him

Charles Chaplin yesterday rejected, at least temporarily, the new management plan for United Artists which had been advanced by his co-owner of the company, Mary Pickford, and which was broached at the company's sales meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Wednesday.

Miss Pickford's plan, advanced after she had terminated negotiations with Si Fabian and the First National Bank of Boston for the sale of her half interest in U.A., was to make George Bagnall, U.A. vice-president and Hol-

(Continued on page 7)

Reade Appeals RKO N.J. Suit Dismissal

Walter Reade is continuing his fight to have declared illegal a joint ownership contract with RKO Theatres, with the filing of an appeal to the Circuit Court of Appeals in Albany of the decision rendered by the Appellate Division, New York Supreme Court, sustaining the latter's dismissal of the original Reade complaint.

Reade claims that the pact governing operation of Trenton-New Brunswick Theatres, Inc., comprising 13 houses in New Jersey, is "illegal as a matter of law." The company is supervised by four directors, two rep-

(Continued on page 7)

SMPE to Extend Field Operations

Following the promotion of Boyce Nemec to executive secretary, three new staff appointments have been made by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers in order to carry on the increased field and other activities of the organization.

Tom LoGiudice has been named staff engineer, taking over the engineering committee work, technical reports and other duties formerly handled by Nemec; Margaret C. Kelly becomes office manager in charge of

(Continued on page 6)

13 From UA In 6 Months

United Artists will release 13 top-budget productions during the next six months, it was announced here yesterday by J. J. Unger, UA's general manager, at the company's final session of a three-day sales conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York. In addition, "Arch of Triumph" will be distributed during the period as a special.

The line-up is part of the 36 pictures scheduled for release during 1947-48. Three each will be released during August, September and October, with two each set for November and December. They are:

July: "The Other Love," Enter-

(Continued on page 7)

65% of M-G-M Shorts To Be in Technicolor

Sixty-five per cent of M-G-M's 48 scheduled short subjects for 1947-48 will be in Technicolor, Fred Quimby, head of the short subjects department, disclosed here yesterday.

Pete Smith specialties will include "Football Thrills No. 10," "What D'Ya Know?" "Those Good Old

(Continued on page 6)

$312,000 Is Added to Motion Picture Fund

Hollywood, July 10.—A new three-year contract for the organization's talent for Camel's radio program, which will increase revenue from that source by $312,000, was announced here by Jean Hersholt, president of the Motion Picture Relief Fund.

Hersholt said that the new contract will increase revenue from that source by $2,000 weekly over the three-year period.

Richards and Carter Head MPF in N.O.

New Orleans, July 10.—E. V. Richards, head of Paramount Richards Theatres, was elected national trustee, and Norman L. Carter of the same company, chairman of the New Orleans exchange area unit of the Motion Picture Foundation at an organizing meeting at the Roosevelt Hotel here today.

Others elected were: Lew Connors,

(Continued on page 7)

Coast Guilds to Sponsor Probe of Reissues Impact

Hollywood, July 10.—Following a four-hour debate here last night by representatives of 18 guilds and unions on the question of the impact of the marketing of increased numbers of reissues on Hollywood employment, a recommendation was adopted calling for a survey of the situation by a hired expert economist with a view toward mapping a program for correcting possible deleterious effects of the step-up in reissues. The recommendation will go to the respective union and guild boards for approval.

Following the expected adoption of the recommendation by the various boards, an impartial economist from fields outside the industry will be jointly employed to make the survey.

Directors' and actors' guilds were among the 18 represented at the meeting.

Prior to the meeting, it had been pointed out by a SWG economic program committee that the number of reissued films has pyramided in recent months. The group reported that "an analysis of a recent week of motion picture exhibition in the New

(Continued on page 6)

KRS Sees Need for Change in Policy

London, July 10.—A council meeting of the Kinematograph Renters Society today discussed cooperative booking and the general impression of members showed that they appreciate the necessity of a change in the present distribution-exhibition policy in preference to government legislation. A special meeting was decided upon for July 31 for a full membership discussion before holding any further talks with the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association.

F. W. Baker was reelected KRS treasurer, but a decision on a new president was withheld until the July 31 meeting when a proposal will be weighed to appoint a permanent paid president.

ASCAP Wins First Round From Berger

Court Holds Performance Right Is Separate One

Minneapolis, July 10.—Music sychronization rights obtained by a film producer do not grant exhibitors the public performance rights to such music in their theatres, Federal Judge Gunnar Nordbye held today in U. S. District Court here.

The finding, first ever to be made by an American court on the point, came in a decision denying a motion for summary judgment made last Dec. 4 by Benny Berger, independent circuit operator here and president of North Central Allied Theatre Owners Association, in an action filed against him and Mrs. Jessie Jensen, Avalon Theatre, White Bear, Minn., by Ascap members charging infringement of their copyrights.

Berger had alleged that the method by which Ascap licensed theatres was a violation of the Sherman Act in restraint of trade. The court rejected the claim and upheld Ascap in most of its contentions. The case against

(Continued on page 7)

Taft-Hartley Act Slows U-'IA' Talks

First effect on the Taft-Hartley act on labor relations in the film industry is believed to have taken place in negotiations between Universal and Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE.

The union submitted a request for wage increases amounting to about 14 per cent for 250 employes, more than three weeks ago. As of yester-

(Continued on page 7)

Meet Set to Form U.N. Film Group

First meeting of the American Film Committee for the United Nations will be convened at the Astor Hotel here next Wednesday.

Initial organization work of the American committee is expected to be undertaken following a luncheon to

(Continued on page 7)

Para. Buys 44,300 Additional Shares

Paramount last month purchased 44,300 additional shares of its common securities in the open market, to bring its holdings to 379,600 since its stock-buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban last November.

Previous monthly purchase totals were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January 38,408; February 23,792; March, 72,500; April 72,300, and May, 70,300. Closing price for Paramount common yesterday was $28.50.

Schary, Cotten, Mills, Are Honored Here

Receptions for Dore Schary, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production; for Joseph Cotten, star of "Portrait of Jennie," and John Mills, star of "Great Expectations" and "So Well Remembered," were held here yesterday.

Schary was honored at the Hotel Astor by the One World Award Committee and the American Nobel Anniversary Commitee for producing "The Farmer's Daughter" and "Crossfire."

Vanguard was host to Cotten at the RKO Pathe Studios, while Universal-International and RKO Radio jointly sponsored the affair for Mills at the Hampshire House. Mills will leave for the Coast on Tuesday.

Monogram Officials Leave for Meeting

A delegation of Monogram's Eastern executives, headed by Edward Morey, vice-president and executive assistant to Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, will leave here Sunday night by train for the national convention of both companies to be held in Oklahoma City on July 17-19, at the Skirvin Towers Hotel.

Others will include M. R. Goldstein, general sales manager; L. J. Schlaifer, director of sales; Arthur Greenblatt, Eastern sales manager; Nat Furst, Northeastern district manager, and Si Borus, contract manager.

Chapman to Atlanta For Film Classics

ATLANTA, July 10.—Jules Chapman, executive of Film Classics, New York, has arrived here to take over the Film Classics office formerly owned by John W. Mangham. He has appointed Ralph Peckham as local branch manager. The latter was formerly manager of Mayfair Pictures in Atlanta, some years back.

New Larkin Associate

Harris Samonisky, former newspaperman and publicist, has joined Mark Larkin, public relations and publicity counselor, here. In addition to experience as a radio editor and motion picture editor, Samonisky was a newspaper city editor.

Personal Mention

MRS. JACK WARNER, LOUIS ELLIMAN, J. Arthur Rank Organization representative for Northern Ireland, and DENNIS MORGAN are among passengers sailing for England today on the *Mauretania*.

•

HUGH BRALY, Paramount's West Coast district manager, has left Los Angeles for conferences in Seattle, Portland and San Francisco.

•

ARNOLD C. CHILDHOUSE, general manager of the Holland MPEA, arrived here by plane yesterday for home office conferences.

•

HARRY and IKE KATZ of Kay Film Exchange, Atlanta, were in Memphis this week on a brief business trip.

•

AL COCO, St. Louis head booker for M-G-M, is here on vacation.

•

JOSE ITURBI leaves here today by plane for Rio de Janeiro.

EDWARD T. CHEYFITZ, assistant to ERIC JOHNSTON, president of Motion Picture Association, has arrived in Hollywood.

•

R. L. MCCOY, Southern district manager of Eagle-Lion, was in Charlotte from his Atlanta headquarters this week for discussions with HAROLD KEETER, Charlotte branch manager for PRC, Eagle-Lion.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service and Altec Lansing Corp., has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M short sales, reprint and importations, leaves today for Minneapolis on a tour of Western branches.

•

SAM CLARK of the Warner studio publicity department, returns to the Coast from New York this weekend

'Jolson Story' Tops In Popularity Poll

"The Jolson Story" leads all other films in popularity so far this year, according to the results of a poll conducted by George Gallup's Audience Research, Inc., for *Photoplay* Magazine. "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "Boomerang" do not appear in the "top ten" list but are expected to rank highly when seen by more theatre-goers, Gallup said.

Following "Jolson" in popularity, according to the survey, are: "It's a Wonderful Life," "Margie," "Blue Skies," "13 Rue Madeleine," "Till the Clouds Roll By," "Notorious," "Song of the South," "The Dark Mirror" and "The Killers."

Top stars are listed alphabetically as follows: Ingrid Bergman, Bette Davis, Greer Garson, Rita Hayworth and Lana Turner; Humphrey Bogart, Gary Cooper, Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Alan Ladd.

'IA' Operators Start Talks with Skouras

Representatives of projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, here, and the Skouras circuit began negotiations yesterday on the union's request for a 34 per cent wage increase for some 300 members employed by the circuit. Skouras representatives will study the union's request, and another negotiation session will be held on July 18.

The local has also submitted a similar wage request to the RKO, Loew and Randforce circuits. A total of 1,200 members of the local are involved.

Rosdal in New Post

Ruth Rosdal, formerly in the editorial department of the Caxton House Publishing Co. has joined the motion picture advertising division of the American Foreign Language Press, it is announced by Sigmund Gottlober, president of the organization.

New Judging Plans For Cannes Festival

The 1947 film festival at Cannes, France, will open on Sept. 12 and will continue through Sept. 25. It will differ from previous festivals in that each country will be asked to submit fewer pictures than in the past. Also, the public will constitute the jury.

Under new rules, a country producing more than 100 films a year can enter six pictures, two of them unreleased, while countries producing 50 or more films annually can submit four films including one unreleased one. Other countries can submit one picture, preferably unreleased.

Productions will be divided into the following categories: Films dealing with psychological and romantic themes; adventure pictures; films dealing with social problems; historical films; comedy musicals; animated cartoons and shorts. Of the latter only three can be submitted by each country with the choice of subject up to the producers. Screenings will be held in the "Palais des Festivals."

Set Decorators to Resume Bargaining

HOLLYWOOD, July 10.—The Screen Set Decorators Local No. 1421 has telegraphed producers their acceptance of July 15 as the date for resuming collective bargaining negotiations. The union terminated negotiations a month ago when told the producers would not negotiate for two classifications claimed by the IATSE.

Resumption was sought by the local, which agreed to exempt the disputed classifications for the present.

New Post for Roach

Hal Roach, who is a substantial stockholder in the half-billion dollar Investor's Syndicate of America, has been elected to the board of directors of that organization.

Ullman to Coast For Brief Visit

Frederic Ullman, Jr., president of RKO Pathe News, will leave here for the Coast tonight for a five-day business trip during which he may initiate arrangements for his later production of "The Window" at the RKO Radio studios.

Ullman said he will be back in New York in a week and will continue with Pathe News "for some time to come."

Indications are that no exe[illegible]e changes in Pathe News will occur while the current interest of Warner Brothers in acquiring the newsreel from RKO are alive.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
PAT O'BRIEN · WALTER SLEZAK · ANNE JEFFREYS
in
'RIFF-RAFF'
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Fred MacMURRAY
in
BETTY MacDONALD'S
'THE EGG and I'
IN PERSON
VINCENT LOPEZ
HIS PIANO & ORCHESTRA
Plus REVUE

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
34TH WEEK!
COOL
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

Peggy CUMMINS - Victor MATURE
Ethel BARRYMORE
"MOSS ROSE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
PLUS ON STAGE—
OLSEN and JOHNSON
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

"The PERILS of PAULINE"
A Paramount Picture
in Technicolor
STARRING
BETTY HUTTON - JOHN LUND
In Person
"HOUR OF CHARM"
All-Girl Orchestra and Choir
Under Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
PARAMOUNT - TIMES SQUARE

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SUCCESS STORY!!!

Ours!!! Yours???

Paramount has an unusual comedy, from the stage play of the same name, called "DEAR RUTH" which is ready for general release.

It is so entertaining to the entire family that audience comments from age 6 to 60 are amazing.

Paramount released it for test engagements in June with normal local exploitation.

Invariably, the opening days of the engagement resulted in business of the order of "Suddenly It's Spring".

In the later days of these test engagements, when those who saw the picture had told their friends about it, the picture was doing business equal to that of "Two Years Before The Mast"

* * *

Paramount opened "DEAR RUTH" with Perry Como at the Paramount Theatre in New York. Of course the first day's audience came to see Perry Como. They exclaimed in admiration at the picture and told their friends about it. The second week's business exceeded the first. The third week almost equalled the first. The fourth week will be better than the third and approaching the *first*. This sequence is unheard of.

Paramount decided to try an engagement where a preview would be held and the preview audience and critics' comments would be recorded and intensively presented to their friends and neighbors by radio. THE FIRST WEEK OF THAT ENGAGEMENT—AT THE PARAMOUNT, KANSAS CITY—IS JUST BEING COMPLETED. BUSINESS IN WHAT IS NORMALLY THE WORST BOX-OFFICE WEEK OF THE YEAR* IS NOW WELL IN EXCESS OF "CALIFORNIA" AND "MAST".

Meanwhile in St. Louis "DEAR RUTH" had opened with a first week gross 27% under "Calcutta". But in its second week, in the face of a paralyzing streetcar strike and devastating floods, it drew even with "Calcutta's" second stanza. The third week actually moved ahead of "Calcutta" figures. AND ON THE DAY THIS WAS WRITTEN, WHICH WAS THE FIFTH DAY OF THE FOURTH WEEK, THE GROSS HAD ALREADY TOPPED ALL THREE PREVIOUS FULL WEEKS AND WAS MORE THAN DOUBLE THE FOURTH FULL WEEK OF "CALCUTTA".

* * *

Book "DEAR RUTH" for "Mast" grosses and time. Arrange for Paramount to help you tell your community about it. When your people find out what those who have seen it think about it they will come in droves. OUR SUCCESS STORY CAN BE YOURS!

And when you remember that "DEAR RUTH" is just one of Paramount's July-August line-up that includes such sure-fire, made-to-order box-office attractions as "WELCOME STRANGER" with Crosby and Fitzgerald; the pre-sold "PERILS OF PAULINE" in Technicolor with Betty Hutton; Wallis' beautiful Technicolor drama "DESERT FURY"; and your own Variety Club's "VARIETY GIRL" with Hope, Crosby and 40 other stars—it becomes increasingly clear why the considered judgment of this industry is that PARAMOUNT IS PARAMOUNT.

SO QUIT WORRYING ABOUT BUSINESS BEING BEHIND LAST YEAR. IT WILL BE *AHEAD*, WHEN YOU PLAY THESE

Paramount Pictures

---

* Normally down 30% from the periods in which "California" and "Mast" played.

Everybody says

RKO
PRESENTS

ROBERT YOUNG ★ SUSAN HAYWARD

JANE GREER

in

They Won't Believe Me!

with

RITA JOHNSON · TOM POWERS

Directed by IRVING PICHEL · Produced by JOAN HARRISON

Screen Play by JONATHAN LATIMER · Based on the Story by GORDON McDONELL

R K O
RADIO
PICTURES

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED TO MORE THAN SIXTY MILLION CIRCULATION!

. . . including Life, Look, Saturday Evening Post, Collier's, American, True Confessions, True Story, Fan List and the 44 important Sunday newspaper supplements of American Weekly and This Week.

it's a Top-Money show!

Boxoffice Says It!

"Slick and brittle, with an emotional wallop that will have the customers tense with interest and suspense . . . Rates high . . Gold-assurance of plenty of business."

M. P. Herald Says It!

"Tense and exciting . . . climaxed by a spectacular conclusion . . . Many dramatic moments, well presented by able performers."

M. P. Daily Says It!

"Suspense thriller in the Hitchcock tradition . . . Highly polished, well-stacked with names . . . aimed at sizable grosses."

Film Daily Says It!

"Has names and performances to lift it well over mark . . . Unfolds in solid, engrossing style that mounts to sharp, exciting conclusion."

The Exhibitor Says It!

"Absorbing drama . . . holds interest all the way . . . rates with the better entries of its kind."

The Independent Says It!

"Good performances, high production values and a strong, surprise finale."

Film Bulletin Says It!

"Exploitable and suspenseful . . . engrossing character study."

Showmen's Trade Review Says It!

"One of the most suspenseful and thrilling dramas ever to come out of Hollywood . . . Should be a humdinger at ticket windows, coast to coast, large houses or small."

Hollywood Reporter Says It!

"Pulls no punches . . . very ably directed and stalwartly performed."

Daily Variety Says It!

"Rates as moneymaker . . . Smash finish will leave audiences talking."

$600,000 Seen for US Film Division

WASHINGTON, July 10. — The State Department's motion picture division will probably have to operate on a shoe-string budget between $500,000 and $600,000 during the coming fiscal year, it was indicated here.

The film section, which asked for slightly more than $3,000,000, was voted $800,000 in the bill which passed the Senate originally. This provided $13,400,000 for the entire overseas information program.

The House-Senate conference cut this to $12,400,000, specifying only that $700,000 was to be cut from the foreign service and $300,000 from domestic programs. It said the broadcast program was not to be touched. State Department officials have decided that $100,000 of the $300,000 to be cut from the domestic operations will come from the film section, while they have not yet decided how much of the $700,000 cut in the foreign service is to be taken off film activities. However, it will probably be enough to drop the film section funds below the $600,000 mark.

State Department's Film Division Curtailed

WASHINGTON, July 10.—The State Department's international film division is "still in business, but at a very reduced scale," acting chief Herbert T. Edwards declares.

Final Department conferences cut the Division's funds for domestic activities to $400,000 in 1947-1948. Overseas operations will also be cut.

Present allocations will permit the division to finish 100 reels now in the process of adaptation, and complete 60 new reels, Edwards said.

It will also cut the number of languages in which films are dubbed from 20 to six, and the number of prints sent out will be reduced by two-thirds.

Jones Approved for FCC by Senate Group

WASHINGTON, July 10.—The Senate Commerce Committee has unanimously approved the nomination of Rep. Robert F. Jones to the Federal Communications Commission. At several committee hearings Jones denied charges that he had been a member of the black legion. Some opposition is expected on the Senate floor, but the unanimous recommendation makes Senate confirmation likely.

Subpoena Eisler

WASHINGTON, July 10.—Rep. J. Parnell Thomas announced here that a new subpoena has been issued to film composer Hans Eisler, directing him to appear Sept. 23 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Many others are expected to appear before the committee in its investigation in the fall of Communist activities in the film industry.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BOSTON

Severe heat, plus the long holiday weekend and the start of retail Saturday closings, failed to hurt grosses as much as expected. "The Perils of Pauline," at the Metropolitan, topped the town, with "Ivy" doing well at the Memorial. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 9:

COPACABANA (UA) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,500)

COPACABANA (UA) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M) and LITTLE MR. JIM (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M) and LITTLE MR. JIM (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

IVY (U-I) and TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) — MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,200)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $32,000. (Average: $26,000)

WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $23,400)

SAN FRANCISCO

First vaudeville show in 16 years at the Paramount here brought in a record-smashing gross of $44,750. Elsewhere, grosses generally were mixed. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 11:

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—FOX (4,651) (65c-85c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (55c-85c). On a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,000)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAYS (Col)—ORPHEUM (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville, 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $23,000)

THE PATIENT VANISHES (Film Classics) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.) — STATE (2,135) (60c-85c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,00)

SPOILERS OF THE NORTH (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 2nd week. With vaudeville. Gross: $44,750. (Average: $20,000)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) —ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and THREE ON A TICKET (PRC)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $19,500)

KANSAS CITY

Fine weather drew thousands outdoors. The Paramount is having the best attendance in months with "Dear Ruth." Estimated receipts for the week ended July 9:

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,315. (Average: $1,750)

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,750. (Average: $9,000)

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (formerly Newman) (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $11,000)

DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I reissue) and WHEN THE DALTONS RODE (U-I reissue)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M) and LITTLE MR. JIM (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)

SMPE to Extend

(Continued from page 1)

physical operation of the Society's headquarters, and Helen M. Stote has been appointed editor of the SMPE Journal, formerly part of the executive secretary's duties, and in charge of all printing done by the Society.

More Contact Work

Under the newly departmentalized setup, placing SMPE work in three categories under Nemec's administrative supervision, the executive secretary will be able to do more traveling and field contact work with a view to extending the Society's services to the industry. The new arrangement also will allow Nemec more time for conferring on policy matters with the Society's president, Loren L. Ryder, and the board of governors.

M-G-M Shorts

(Continued from page 1)

Days," "I Love My Mother-in-Law but—," "Scientifiquiz," "Have You Ever Wondered?" "Surfboard Rhythm," "Bowling Tricks," "You Can't Win" and one other.

Coast Guilds

(Continued from page 1)

York metropolitan area alone showed that out of 224 pictures playing in the area 105 were reissues and 29 were foreign films."

Cite Sound Anniversary

The 1947 edition of *Collier's Year Book,* covering key events of 1946, now being distributed to libraries throughout the country, devotes half a page to the WB celebration of the "20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures."

Champion, Edwards In Mono. Production

HOLLYWOOD, July 10.—John C. Champion and Blake Edwards have been signed by Steve Broidy, Monogram president, to a writing-producing deal under which the two will release their first production, "Panhandle," through Monogram. Scheduled as a high-budget Western, it will go before the cameras on Sept. 1. Negotiations are underway to secure Rod Cameron as star.

Dunn Succeeds Clark As PRC Sales Head

Harold Dunn, formerly chief sales assistant to Ralph H. Clark, is now acting general sales manager of PRC, following Clark's resignation because of illness.

Clark announced his resignation from the PRC post after doctors prescribed a complete rest for several months. Clark, who has been in Florida since May, will leave this week for the Coast.

RKO to Tradeshow 3 Here Next Week

RKO Radio will hold a trade showing of Dore Schary's "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" in the Normandie Theatre, here, on Monday. On Tuesday there will be a trade showing of "Under the Tonto Rim" at the company's local exchange, and on Wednesday there will be a showing there of "Seven Keys to Baldpate."

Burger Opens 12th Telenews Theatre

MILWAUKEE, July 10.—Thurston Wayner is manager of the new Telenews Theatre, which will open here tomorrow. The newsreel is the first of its type in Milwaukee, and is the 12th of its type in the national Telenews organization, of which Alfred G. Burger is president.

Zoomar Demonstration

First public demonstration of the Zoomar television lens will be given today by WNBT here in covering the New York Giants-St. Louis Cardinals baseball game. The lens, used on an RCA image orthicon camera, is said to be capable of "zooming" from close-up to wide range shots without changing the position of the camera. Frank Back is the inventor and Jerry Fairbanks has distribution rights.

Second Stockholder Suit

A second minority stockholder's complaint seeking to enjoin Paramount from organizing and financing an investment company for key personnel was filed yesterday in New York Federal Court, by Saul Ganick. The plan for the Employes' Investment Co. was approved by stockholders at their annual meeting here last month.

DON'T MISS VARIETY GIR

Chaplin Vetoes Management Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

lywood production liaison, president of the company; Arthur W. Kelly, Chaplin's business representative, executive vice-president of U.A., and to name an executive committee of three to assist in the administration of the company in the East. Bagnall would have remained in Hollywood.

[illegible] reporting the plan yesterday, [illegible]on Picture Daily stated it was contingent upon Chaplin's concerence.

Miss Pickford left here for the Coast by plane yesterday. Prior to her departure she issued a statement in which she said the reports of the appointment of a new president of U.A. (Bagnall) were "premature."

"No decision will be made or announced until after my arrival on the West Coast and I have had an opportunity of discussing the matter with Charles Chaplin."

Almost simultaneously, word was received in New York from the Coast that Chaplin had rejected the new management plan. Observers here said the co-owner of U. A. resented the plan having been broached before he had been consulted. It was also stated that Bagnall, an innocent bystander in the episode, had not been consulted, either.

It was hazarded that if Miss Pickford is unsuccessful in achieving a rapprochement with Chaplin on the matter following her return to Hollywood, that she could be expected to veto the election of Kelly, Chaplin's choice for executive vice-president. Fate of the proposed executive committee also hinges on the outcome of Miss Pickford's coming consultations with Chaplin.

It was surmised that, in the event of Miss Pickford and Chaplin being unable to agree on a new management plan, the company might continue as it is indefinitely, providing Edward C. Raftery would agree to remain as U.A. president under the circumstances, or that an interim executive committee might be named to direct the company until permanent management was agreed upon.

Miss Pickford's plan, which was vetoed by Chaplin, was designed as a temporary one from the outset, it was pointed out.

ASCAP Wins

(*Continued from page 1*)

Berger was set down for trial in the autumn, with both sides heading the litigation for final judgment in the U. S. Supreme Court.

Louis D. Frohlich of the New York law firm of Schwartz and Frohlich, Ascap counsel, represented the Society at the original hearing here last December.

Examine Frisch In N. Y. Ascap Suit

Pre-trial examinations in the restraint-of-trade suit filed against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers by New York independent exhibitors—mostly members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, continued here yesterday as Ascap interrogated Manny Frisch of Randforce Amusement Co.

A deposition was taken by the plaintiffs from Herman Greenberg, in charge of licensing for Ascap. Examinations of Deems Taylor, Ascap president, and Richard Murray, foreign manager, are to be conducted when both return from Europe.

Legion Classifies Six Additional Pictures

Four of six films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I. They are: PRC's "Heartaches," Universal-International's "Nicholas Nickleby," PRC's "Pioneer Justice" and M-G-M's "The Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Rated A-II was "Dark Passage," Warner Brothers, and placed in Class B was Mage Film's "The Bellman."

N. O. Foundation

(*Continued from page 1*)

Warner branch manager here, vice-chairman; Page Baker, Theatres Service, secretary-treasurer. Committeemen selected for the first year were: W. S. Taylor, Laurel, Miss.; Arthur Lehman, Jackson, Miss.; A. Higginbotham, Dixie Theatres, New Orleans; Joy Houck, Joy Circuit, New Orleans; A. S. Johnson, Local No. 293, IATSE; George Biallo, Southern Amusement, Lake Charles; Houston Duval, Columbia branch manager; Louis Boyer, National Screen Service; Leo Seichnaydre, Republic branch manager, and W. A. Prewitt, Associated Theatres.

Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount Pictures, and Carter outlined the aims of the Foundation to a large gathering of exhibitors, exchange men, and supply and allied industry representatives prior to the election. Goldenson reported that only four exchange areas now remain to organize for the Foundation, following which the national organization will be perfected, probably in New York next month.

U. N. Film Group

(*Continued from page 1*)

be addressed by Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the U.N. cultural education division. Similar committees already have been organized in other U.N. member countries.

Leaders of the organized industry, representatives of exhibition, distribution and production have been invited to attend. Representatives of the 16mm film industry also will attend.

13 From UA in Six Months

(*Continued from page 1*)

prise Production starring Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven; August: "Carngie Hall," Federal Films production, starring top concert artists; "Body and Soul," Enterprise, starring John Garfield and Lilli Palmer; "The Hal Roach Comedy Carnival," Hal Roach production; September: "Lured," Hunt Stromberg production, starring George Sanders, Lucille Ball and Charles Coburn; "Heaven Only Knows," Seymour Nebenzal production, starring Robert Cummings and Brian Donlevy; "Christmas Eve," Benedict Bogeaus production, starring George Raft, Joan Blondell, Randolph Scott and George Brent.

October: "Mad Wednesday," Hughes production, starring Harold Lloyd; "Monsieur Verdoux," Charles Chaplin production, starring Chaplin with Martha Raye; November: "A Miracle Can Happen," Bogeaus production with James Stewart, Henry Fonda, Paulette Goddard, Burgess Meredith; "Sleep My Love," Triangle production, starring Claudette Colbert, Robert Cummings and Don Ameche; December: "Atlantis," Nebenzal production, starring Maria Montez, Jean Pierre Aumont and Dennis O'Keefe; "Intrigue," Sam Bischoff productions, starring George Raft and June Havoc.

"Arch of Triumph," Unger announced, will be released on a roadshow basis in October. The $4,000,000 Enterprise productions, which co-stars Ingrid Bergman and Charles Boyer, will probably have its world premiere around Oct. 15, either in New York or Los Angeles, possibly with a simultaneous premiere in both cities.

United Artists will also release three Hopalong Cassidy productions and an undesignated number of Walter Lantz color cartoons and David L. Loew Musicolor shorts.

A $100,000 1947 "Grad Sears Gold Cup Drive" was announced by Unger at the final session. Unger announced the starting date is Monday for the drive, which will be concluded next Jan. 3. District and branch managers will compete for cash in addition to a year's possession of the cup, now in Chicago, which branch, under Sid Rose, took top honors in 1946.

UA's new "Golden Circle Salesmen" were announced by Unger. Ten salesmen, judged on best performance for the season, are: Harold C. Rose, Washington; Forest F. Nine, Dallas; Edward J. Stoller, Minneapolis; Carl F. Reese, Omaha; Sidney Cooper, Detroit; Leonard Mintz, Philadelphia; Sam Rifkin, New York; William C. Hames, Atlanta; Al Iscove, Toronto; W. W. McKendrick, Salt Lake City.

Tamarin Succeeds Waller As UA Publicity Manager

Alfred H. Tamarin, former publicity director of the Theatre Guild here, has been named publicity manager of United Artists by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., director of advertising-publicity. Tamarin, who will take over on Aug. 4, succeeds Tom Waller, who will join the Motion Picture Association here.

U-'IA' Talks

(*Continued from page 1*)

day, it had not received a reply from the company.

Some provisions of the act went into effect on June 23, date of passage of the legislation. Other provisions, affecting closed shops and other phases of union contracts, will go into effect on Aug. 23. Observers believe the slow tempo of the negotiations is attributable to the new law. The negotiations were started under a wage-reopening clause of the existing contract, which expires on July 1, 1948.

It had been expected that an agreement with Warner Brothers for 750 home office employes, which was recently signed, would influence the Universal negotiations, but the chief features of the WB accord were agreed to prior to the passage of the Taft-Hartley legislation.

ABC in Video Group

Board of directors of Television Broadcasters Association has formally approved the membership application of the American Broadcasting Co., thus aligning all four national networks in the group. Paul Mowrey and Richard Rawls have been named ABC representatives to the association.

Reade Appeals

(*Continued from page 1*)

resenting RKO, which owns 50 per cent of the company, one for Reade, who owns 25 per cent, and one for the estate of the late Frank V. Storrs, which holds the remaining 25 per cent.

One dissenting opinion in the Appellate Division's decision is to be stressed by Reade in his new appeal action.

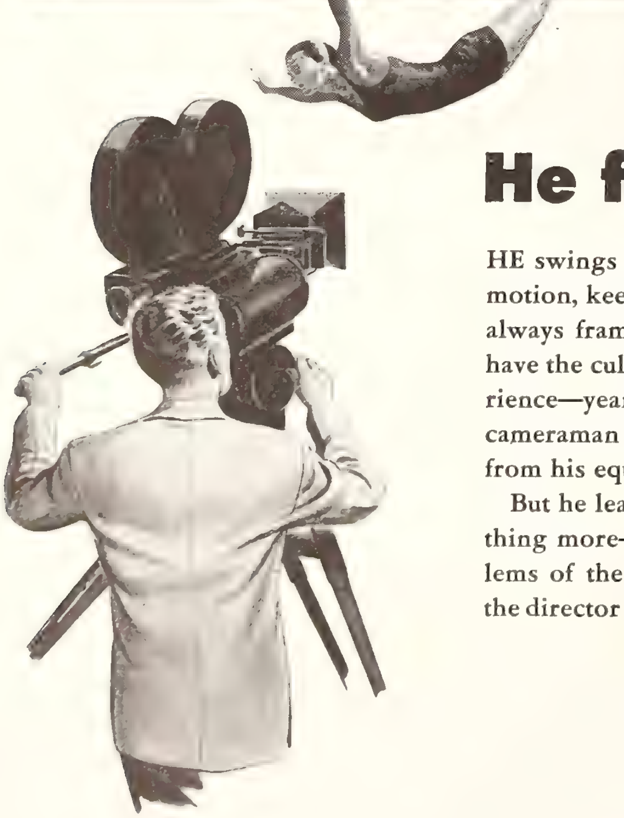
Meanwhile, negotiations leading to dissolution of the joint interests are said to be continuing. RKO has offered to buy out its partners in the company for $1,600,000, or to sell its interests for the same amount. Reade has countered this with an offer to purchase RKO's stock but at book value, which RKO declares to be only about one-fifth of the market value.

Stock legends direct that in the event of a sale one partner must sell to the other at book value, but RKO insists that this is invalid since, it claims, a "forced sale" is involved.

Anders to Rest

Hartford, July 10.—Albert W. Anders, for many years owner of the Bijou theatre, Springfield, Mass., has temporarily relinquished his managership to B. and Q. Associates, Boston, and has left the city for a rest, on doctor's orders.

TRADE SHOW TODAY ! ! !



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Rank Cracks Solid South's Solid Front

'Toughest' U. S. Buyers Softened by Sales Talk

NEW ORLEANS, July 13.—J. Arthur Rank appeared here Friday night in the role of British film salesman before the toughest aggregation of film buyers ever gathered in a single meeting room and emerged with a 50-50 or better chance of making some deals.

J. Arthur Rank

As the guest of E. V. Richards, head of Paramount Richards Theatres here, at a dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel, attended by circuit and independent operators from many sections of the Solid South and from more distant points, Rank made

(Continued on page 3)

Industry Will Not Produce U.N. Films

Although the industry will cooperate in the formation of the American Film Committee for the United Nations, and members of the industry will serve as members of the committee, no commitment will be made to produce United Nations films, it was ascertained here on Friday. Leaders of all branches of the industry will attend the meeting at the Hotel Astor here Wednesday, at which the committee probably will be organized.

Industry Leaders on UJA Luncheon Dais

Industry representatives who will occupy the dais at the emergency luncheon-meeting to be held at the Hotel Astor tomorrow to speed up the United Jewish Appeal's drive to raise $2,100,000 in the New York amusement world follow:

Barney Balaban, national chairman

(Continued on page 4)

Warners, RCA in Pact to Develop Theatre Television

RCA Victor division of the Radio Corp. of America and Warner Brothers Pictures have signed a contract for a joint program of research on large-screen television for theatres.

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Brothers, Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production, and Frank M. Folsom, executive vice-president of RCA in charge of Victor, made the joint announcement, calling the cooperative arrangement "an historic step toward the development of large-screen television in the motion picture industry."

"The research and experimental program, it is predicted, will be as important as the first tentative efforts to put sound on film more than 20 years ago," a Warner statement declared.

New types of black-and-white large-

(Continued on page 4)

Partmar Files Suit Against Paramount

LOS ANGELES, July 13.—Partmar Corp. has filed a counter-action in Federal Court against Paramount for treble damages totaling $4,500,000, alleging that Paramount forced Partmar to make over-payments on film rentals and profits.

Paramount originally filed a suit to regain possession of the Los Angeles Paramount Theatre, which it owns, on the grounds that the New York court trust suit decision abrogates the lease under which Partmar operates the property.

Technicolor Net Up; Kalmus Cuts Price

Hollywood, July 13.—A reduction of one-half cent per foot in the price of Technicolor 35mm. film, except three-strip and successive exposure negative, was announced by president Herbert T. Kalmus at the weekend. Price is retroactive to April 10. Retroactive feature entails refund of about $285,000 to customers, Kalmus estimated.

Technicolor, Inc., net consolidated profit, before taxes, for the first six months of 1947 is estimated at $1,230,700, which compares with $632,900 for the corresponding six months of 1946.

Salt Lake Picking Up After a Decline

SALT LAKE CITY, July 13.—Showmen here are recovering some from the drop which their grosses took starting a few months ago. Intense competition from Centennial events found theatremen wondering if they were cracking up entirely for a few weeks, but there are now so many Centennial attractions they are injuring the business of each other.

The Holiday-on-Ice show, which started events at the State Fairgrounds, which has many exhibits—an opera, circus and other attractions in addition to a midway—drew much business from downtown theatres.

"Variety Girl"

[*Paramount*] — Musical Comedy Triumph

OBVIOUSLY destined to stir up boxoffice commotion aplenty is a mammoth musical comedy in which almost everyone on the Paramount star roster collaborated. It's called "Variety Girl."

Bing Crosby and Bob Hope are together in a few skits that are gems of humorous originality. Bowing in and out and thus contributing to both the saleability and entertainment value of the picture are Gary Cooper, Ray Milland, Alan Ladd, Barbara Stanwyck, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy Lamour, Veronica Lake, Sonny Tufts, Joan Caulfield, William Holden, Lizabeth Scott, Burt Lancaster, Barry Fitzgerald, and dozens of others.

The zany antics of William Bendix, Howard Da Silva and Billy De Wolfe, a specialty number by Pearl Bailey and a George Pal Puppetoon sequence in Technicolor rate special applause.

The show is big, probably one of Paramount's most ambitious efforts in the musical comedy field. A multi-million dollar budget is obvious but not a dime seems to have been misspent. Unerring direction, writing and production guidance are well reflected in the uninterrupted flow of

(Continued on page 4)

Gov't. Action Against Pools Held Unlikely

Failures to Dissolve Said To Be Too Few to Matter

Formal Government protest of instances of inability to break up theatre pools and distributor uncertainty as to whether certain other joint operations constitute pools within the New York Federal Court's meaning of the term is held unlikely by attorneys here.

The general feeling is that the theatre-owning defendants in the anti-trust case have shown intention of complete compliance with the pool dissolution edict by way of discontinuing the bulk of such theatre arrangements and that the Department of Justice, which has yet to make known its position, will offer only minor objections, if any, to

(Continued on page 4)

Joint ATA-MPTOA Convention in Fall

A joint convention of American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will be held early next autumn if the merger of the two organizations is approved at the meeting scheduled to be held here next Friday and Saturday, according to the current membership bulletin of ATA.

The bulletin admits that the merger has been under "informal discussion"

(Continued on page 4)

Schnitzer, Lazarus In Product Meetings

Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager for United Artists, has set three product meetings for the Philadelphia-Washington, New England and Central districts, to take place respectively on Thursday

(Continued on page 4)

2 Reviews Today

In addition to the review of "Variety Girl," which begins on this page, this issue carries a review of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," on page 4.

Personal Mention

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount's director of advertising-publicity; SID MESIBOV, assistant exploitation manager, and WILLIAM DANZIGER, executive publicist, are in Pittsburgh today.

•

LYNN FARNOL, Eastern advertising-publicity director of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., left here at the weekend for a two weeks' vacation in Canada.

•

KENNETH MACKENNA of M-G-M's studio story department will return here from England by plane July 17 and will head for the Coast two days later.

•

HUGH FINDLAY, publicity head for M-G-M's British studios, will return to England from New York aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* on Thursday.

•

WILLIAM PINE, of the Paramount Pine-Thomas producing team, returned to the Coast from New York at the weekend.

•

HERMAN LEVY, MPTOA general counsel, was in New York at the weekend from New Haven.

•

SAM MARX, M-G-M producer, will return to New York today from a Cape Cod vacation.

•

MARVIN H. SCHENCK, M-G-M vice-president, has returned here from Hollywood.

Censorship Unlikely For National Capital

WASHINGTON, July 13.—The Rankin-inspired fight for motion picture censorship in the District of Columbia has apparently fizzled out.

At a meeting of the House District Committee, Chairman Dirksen read a long report on the career of "Duel in the Sun" and the history of censorship in the District. Then a sub-committee was advised to study the possibility of keeping children away from "undesirable" films.

Committee members indicated that the proposal would probably be indefinitely buried in sub-committee.

3-Day ITO of Ohio Meet Starts Today

Cedar Point, O., July 13.—The annual convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio will get underway here tomorrow at the Hotel Breakers; it will run through Wednesday.

Business sessions will be held tomorrow and Tuesday, the convention banquet is scheduled for Tuesday night and social events have been set for Wednesday.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

WHETHER individual sales executives agree or not (and some do not), there is a remarkable increase in the total number of situations being sold today on flat rentals. The increase in toto is of sufficient proportions to be fairly well described as a trend away from percentage selling, at least in the small and medium small revenue areas.

Executive sales opinion disagreement with this observation may have in mind a single company or one or more whose policies may not be unfamiliar to them. However, the broad picture definitely suggests a reduction of percentage selling to the smaller situations.

This publication reported from Albany last week that Paramount and 20th Century-Fox were selling on flat rental-guarantee basis in that territory and there are indications that the practice is not of a local character. In other directions, there is Andy Smith's recent plan of limiting sales of 20th Century-Fox product to subsubsequent runs and distress situations to a minimum of two and a maximum of five percentage deals, the balance of the company's product to be sold on flat rentals on a specified plan. The proposal was announced as an experimental one for the New Haven territory but if it proves feasible there it would be extended, Smith said.

•

Additionally, for more than a year now, M-G-M has been extending flat rental deals to an increasing number of theatres. According to recent reports, the company's flat rental sales have reached a total of nearly 8,000 accounts. William F. Rodgers, however, said last week he does not believe the number is as large as that.

Old customers are the beneficiaries of most of the companies' flat rental proposals. Long experience with an account, distribution executives point out, make the earning possibilities of the situation apparent with virtually any type of picture or under almost any foreseeable conditions. Accordingly, a flat rental deal is as logical as a percentage deal for such situations, and the cost of checking the theatre is eliminated besides.

Although the increase in flat rental deals is evident, there has been no accompanying abatement of exhibitor complaints against "high percentages" and local checkers. It takes more than a trend to achieve that.

• •

Jim Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., told the RKO Radio sales convention in New York last week that he believes simultaneous runs and theatre admission prices adjusted to individual picture quality are the inevitable order of the future for the industry. But Mulvey added he does "not suggest that box office prices at each theatre should continually fluctuate from one attraction to another."

With scores of producers and their willing or unwilling distributors as positive as Samuel Goldwyn that their pictures warrant the higher or top admission prices, who is to be the judge of which picture will get such prices and how could a continual fluctuation of prices be avoided?

Conceivably, a strata of theatres with high admission prices which would remain constant could be established to play the quality product on the simultaneous run basis which Mulvey predicts. Below that strata there would be either sub-stratas of theatres with reduced admission prices playing product of secondary and tertiary quality, simultaneous run, or there would be the present system of runs and clearances which Mulvey regards as "a hang-over from the horse and buggy days." Either that, or an inconceivable fluctuation of prices at every box office.

And does the producer of the quality picture in this new world ahead propose to ignore or forego the subsequent run revenue after his simultaneous runs at high prices are exhausted? We ask only because a simultaneous run at an increased admission is all that Mulvey mentioned, but long after the possibilities of that policy have been exhausted there will still be a lot of theatres left that could be sold on a different policy.

• •

One Paramount partner (Yankee) offered to play 12 British pictures, preferred time, if they'd excuse him from going to New Orleans in July.

• •

Have you made your contribution yet to United Jewish Appeal? If not, do it now. If you have, persuade others to do the same.

Newsreel Parade

THE engagement of Princess Elizabeth highlights newsreel events of current releases. Also shown are John L. Lewis signing the new coal pact; Petrillo at a Congressional unit hearing, and a series of sport and human interest events. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 91—Lewis [illegible] coal operators sign agreement. All Br[illegible] hails betrothal of Princess Elizabeth. [illegible]ging in Austrian Tyrol. King of Greece tours border areas of guerilla strife. Sports: baseball, golf.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 289—A-bomb security ring threatened. Britain's future queen betrothed. Congress hears Petrillo. Lewis ends coal tieup. Flying-disc mystery deepens. All-star baseball highlights.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 92—All-star baseball game. Lewis signs mine contract. Petrillo union investigated. Bobby Locke wins $7,000 golf playoff.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 94—Petrillo at Congress hearing. Lewis signs coal pact. American leaguers win all-star game. A-bomb secrets.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 55—Princess Elizabeth's engagement. Lewis and coal operators sign new contract. Logging operations in Austrian Tyrol. Bobby Locke of South Africa wins golf championship. Racing.

Controls Lifted from Studio Construction

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Repair, maintenance and construction of motion picture sets, studios and other facilities used for production are no longer subject to Government regulation, according to a clarification of the new rent act issued by the Office of the Housing Expediter. The clarification was in response to an inquiry from Jack Bryson, legislative representative of the Motion Picture Association.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that the Government will resume processing applications for theatre construction this week. Processing had been suspended since July 1 while officials studied the new law.

Berman and Kositsky Promoted by PRC

PHILADELPHIA, July 13.—Harry Berman, PRC salesman here, has been promoted to branch manager, and Stanley Kositsky, also a local PRC manager, has been named sales manager.

Postpone Petrillo Probe

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Further public hearings in the House Labor subcommittee's investigation of James C. Petrillo have been postponed until Sept. 15. Chairman Kearns may go to Hollywood before hearings are resumed, and will investigate the studio-American Federation of Musicians agreements in relation to television.

Nelson Visits Truman

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, had a meeting with President Truman at the weekend. As usual, Nelson declared that it was a purely personal visit.

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Predict 20 Millions For WB's "Father"

Since its opening in New York on Nov. 8, 1939, the stage play "Life with Father" has grossed $10,136,000 from its New York and roadshow stagings, the Oscar Serling play producing organization dicloses.

Also, the Serling organization predicts that the Warner film version of the Howard Lindsay-Russell Crouse play, scheduled to be released in mid-August, will gross between $15,000,000 and $20,000,000 in its American and foreign showings. The stage play, which is said to have had the longest run in U. S. theatre history, closed its seven-and-one-half-year engagement on Broadway Saturday night.

Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

an effective "pitch" for the cause of British films in America, a cause which he impressed upon many of his listeners is not too far removed from their business welfare here.

He made a good impression and, if no contracts were signed over the coffee cups, some are likely to be later, as a result, and those who do not sign took home with them something to think about. The consensus of opinion following the gathering was that Rank not only succeeded in unlatching Southern theatre doors that have been barred to British films but actually got his foot inside.

Among those present at the dinner for Rank were:

Jock Lawrence, Nate Blumberg, W. J. Heineman, William Briskie, Harry French, R. J. O'Donnell, Chester Stoddard, Spyros P. Skouras, Fred Storey, Julius Gordon, Sam Landrum, Barney Balaban, Leonard Goldenson, Edward Hyman, Robert Weitman, Carl Bamford, E. K. Crosby, George Baillio, Ed Rowley, John Rowley, Pat di Cicco, Hank Taylor, R. B. Wilby, Harry Nace, Jr., Malcom White, Harry Lustgarten, J. E. Alford, M. A. Lightman, Ed Martin, Leon Netter, Alex Schiciarides, E. J. Hudson, Al Schwalberg, Lem Jones, Lionel Delacrois, C. C. Bounds.

Also Tanos Joseph, Sidney Harp, J. C. Keller, Arthur Lehman, V. G. Hester, Joy Houck, L. C. Montgomery, Bert Kiern, Page Baker, Don Stafford, Mayor Delesseps Morrison, Robert E. Milling, A. B. Patterson, A. P. Imahorn, Gibbons Burke, Maurice F. Barr, Gaston J. Dureau, H. K. Oliphant, Carl Dixon, Frank Weltring, Charles Rosen, James Richards, Elwood Clay, Ralph Nicolson, Streuby L. Drumm, N. L. Carter, M. H. Jacobs, Edgar B. Hinds, Jr., and Max Connett.

Yesterday Rank left here for New York en route back to England.

Hold 'IA' District Meet

Utica, July 13.—Discussion of the Taft-Hartley act's effect on contracts took place today at the annual convention of district No. 10, IATSE, held at the Hotel Hamilton here, with James J. Brennan, international vice-president, presiding.

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Assemblyman Raps N. Y. State Tax Bill

Albany, N. Y., 13.—In a letter to his constituents, John S. Thompson, Orleans county, chairman of the State Assembly committee on taxation, has attacked Gov. Dewey's permissive tax law, which includes a five per cent tax on amusements by counties, and cities with a 100,000 population.

Thompson attacked "the boys in the inner circle," who drafted the measure, and said that it was "rushed through the legislature" before the public knew of its contents. He added that if the bill had been referred to his committee, "it would never have gotten out."

When a committee, including Robert Y. Coyne, executive secretary of ATA, and Fred Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association, visited Albany last March to protest against the admission tax, they learned from legislative leaders, and from Charles Breitel, counsel to Gov. Dewey, that their plea would not be heeded.

Rename Crowe KATO Head; Convention Set

Louisville, July 13. — Guthrie Crowe, president, and other officers and directors have been reelected by the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners.

The KATO convention has been set for Oct. 22, at the Brown Hotel, here.

RKO Men Off to Germany

Washington, July 13. — An advance crew left at the weekend for Germany to begin shooting on RKO Radio's "Berlin Express," the War Department's pictorial section announced here today. This is the first time that a motion picture company has been permitted to film a picture in occupied Germany, army spokesmen said

Deny Selznick Petition

Washington, July 13.—The Federal Trade Commission has denied David O. Selznick's petition asking that his name be removed from the complaint against United Artists and its owners charging misrepresentation in advertising "The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp." Selznick pointed out that he now has no interest in the company.

Duke Gets French Film

"Voyage Surprise," a new French comedy written and directed by Pierre and Jacques Prevert which opened last month in Paris, has arrived in New York and is being edited and titled for an autumn showing. "Voyage Surprise" will be the first of the newly-formed film division of Duke International, headed by Angier Biddle Duke and Charles Labouchere.

Vidor-Columbia Deal

Hollywood, July 13.—Contractual relations between Columbia and director Charles Vidor, subject of a lawsuit early this year, have been resolved in a new deal under which Vidor will produce six features on his own financing and in complete freedom from supervision. No time limit has been set for delivery of the six but Vidor is bound to engage in no other production activity until the commitment is fulfilled.

Kenworthy to Handle Exhibit for SMPE

Robert T. Kenworthy, handler of exhibits for technical, professional and industrial organizations, has been engaged by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers to serve as exhibit manager for the scientific and educational exhibit being put on in connection with the theatre engineering conference that will be featured at the society's 62nd semi-annual convention, Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Kenworthy will work with James Frank, Jr., chairman of the general committee for the meeting, and the exhibit committee, of which W. W. Simmons is chairman.

Harbord Resigns as RCA Board Chairman

The board of directors of RCA has accepted the resignation of James G. Harbord as chairman of the board.

Harbord, who joined RCA on Jan. 1, 1923, served as its president until 1930 and since that time as chairman of the board. While relieved from active duty, he has been named honorary board chairman.

Harry C. Ingles, president of RCA Institutes, has been elected a director of RCA and its subsidiaries, National Broadcasting and RCA Communications, David Sarnoff, president of RCA, announces. Ingles succeeds Edward W. Harden, who has retired, having served on the board since 1919.

Ruben's 13 Rejoin NCA

Minneapolis, July 13.—E. R. Ruben's Welworth theatre circuit has rejoined North Central Allied. Membership includes 13 houses, exclusive of Ruben's La Crosse holdings.

Short Subject

"New Trains for Old"

(*March of Time—20th-Fox*)

With railroads facing growing competition from planes, buses and private autos, a crisis seems to be brewing up in that industry. What is being done to meet the challenge is highlighted in the current issue of March of Time. The subject introduces Robert R. Young, a critic of old methods and equipment, who has become a stormy figure in the railroad industry. Among the innovations being introduced are streamlined cars, motion pictures en route and no tipping rules.

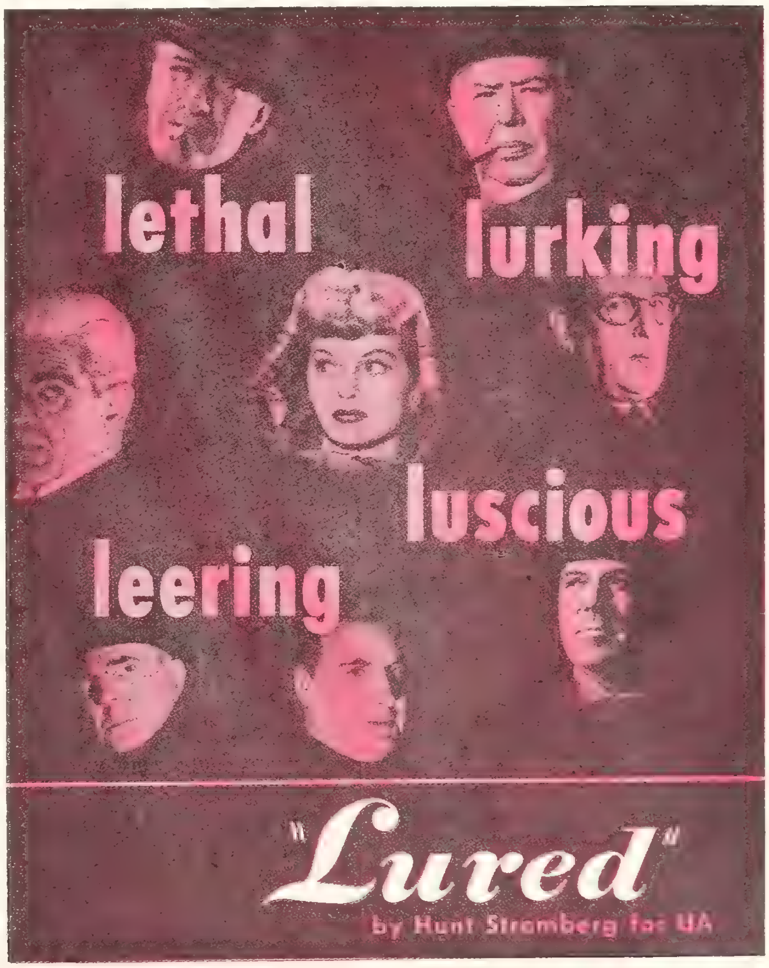
The subject is a timely one that should excite a lively interest. Running time, 18½ minutes.

Jones in FCC Post

Washington, July 13.—Rep. Robert F. Jones has been confirmed by the Senate as a member of the Federal Communications Commission. Jones, who denied charges that he had been a member of the Black Legion, will serve a seven-year term. Appropriation funds were also voted by the Senate group to move the SEC from Philadelphia to Washington.

20th Withdraws Bob

Hollywood, July 13. — Twentieth Century-Fox has announced withdrawal of "Bob, Son of Battle" from release, pending selection of a new title. Action follows a public survey in the Midwest and Rocky Mountain area, which indicated many people thought it a war picture. Following retitling the film will open in New York.



Action on Pools

(*Continued from page* 1)

the sporadic cases of non-compliance.

If the Department takes any action, it is felt here, it would be simply in the form of consultations with the companies to make certain of "reasonable compliance," as it is termed here in some quarters.

The five theatre-owning companies reported pool dissolutions and some changes in theatre partnerships to the New York court on July 1 and by the court's direction will file subsequent reports at three-month intervals.

Warners reported the failure to dissolve a pool in Youngstown, O., where that company and Shea Theatres operate three houses jointly. One, the Warner, is owned by Warner; the second, the Park, is leased and operated by Shea, and the third, the Paramount, is shared. Warners told the court it proposed that both it and Shea operate their respective houses individually and that the third go to one or the other. No agreement was reached.

A somewhat similar situation, in Cleveland, involves Warners and an independent operator, Phil Chakeres.

National Theatres listed joint ownership of 50 situations which, the company conceded, might involve pools. These are in California.

The five companies listed hundreds of corporations in which they hold interests through leases, sub-leases and part ownership, many of them involving profits participation.

Warners, RCA

(*Continued from page* 1)

screen television equipment have been developed by the RCA engineering products department in its Camden plant, and the first elements of this equipment will be shipped immediately to Warner's Burbank studio. Other components will be supplied later.

In addition, RCA will provide technical and research information and the assistance of engineering personnel and field engineers.

Jack Warner has assigned Nathan Levinson, head of the studio's engineering and technical research staff, to direct the experiment for Warners'.

RCA first demonstrated its large-screen television at the New Yorker Theatre, here, in 1941. At that time, scenes televised from Madison Square Garden, Ebbets Field and Camp Upton were projected on a 15-by-20-foot theatre screen.

"Laboratory research and development carried on since then by RCA scientists working on applications of large-screen television for military purposes has contributed to vast improvements in tubes, electronic circuits and components, resulting in pictures of excellent quality by comparison with any previously demonstrated," the Warner statement concluded.

Barton Kreuzer, manager of the RCA film recording section handled the negotiations for RCA.

UJA Luncheon

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the motion picture division of the UJA; Al Jolson, Matty Fox, Albert Warner, Jack Cohn, Si Fabian, Malcolm Kingsberg, Max Cohen, David Weinstock, Sam Rinzler, Fred Schwartz, Billy Rose, Robert Weitman, Leopold Friedman, Emil Friedlander, Richard Rodgers, William Klein and Mannie Sachs.

Jolson wil be guest of honor.

"Variety Girl"

(*Continued from page* 1)

the entire work, a remarkable job in view of the many asides latched onto the yarn about two girls bent on crashing the gates of Hollywood.

The story itself serves its purpose admirably in a role secondary to the shenanigans of the all-star cast. It has its main charactres rambling through the Paramount lot or around Hollywood, creating confusion galore, including one instance in which an Indian-infested Cecil B. De Mille set is entirely disrupted. De Mille is played by De Mille. In their ramblings they encounter the stars who for the most part do a take-off on the characters they themselves generally portray on the screen.

The picture is a tribute to the Variety Clubs of America and a grand, joyful tribute it is. It begins 18 years ago in Pittsburgh as an infant is abandoned in R. J. O'Connell's theatre. Variety Club is thereby launched, first to support the child and later to develop into the fine institution it is today.

The picture picks up at the present in Hollywood where the child, Mary Hatcher, now a talented singer, eagerly sets out to prove herself before the cameras. Olga San Juan, as her roommate; DeForrest Kelley, as a talent scout, are the other two principals in the running story.

Daniel Dare produced, George Marshall directed and the original screenplay is by Edmund Hartman, Frank Tashlin, Robert Welsh and Monte Brice.

Running time, 93 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"The Secret Life of Walter Mitty"

(*Goldwyn-RKO Radio*)

Hollywood, July 13

DYNAMIC Danny Kaye is front and center in one of his distinctively personalized demonstrations of solo entertainment talent in this Samuel Goldwyn production, in Technicolor. James Thurber's noted short story is tip-top amusement for any man's money or theatre. Between these demonstrations, of which there are several, each fitting snugly into the continuity, the picture tells meanderingly and without striving hard for plausibility a story about international jewel thieves whose operations ensnare the hero. Brilliant mounting, an impressive musical setting and rapid pace go far toward overcoming the letdown between the Kaye numbers. The total effect is to place the burden of the film's success squarely upon Kaye.

His convulsingly comic excursions into solo entertainment are made in day dreams experienced by an otherwise meek and modest proofreader for a pulp-magazine publishing firm. In his dreams he imagines himself the antithesis of his real self, first as a staunch seaman piloting his ship through a gale, later as a heroic surgeon-airman sweeping the sky clean of Nazi planes, then as a feared gunman of the Old West, and as a French fashion designer, and so on. Between times he slavishly obeys both his mother's whims and his employer's, becoming so confused finally as to discover only when on the point of marrying the girl chosen for him that he loves another, at which time he reverts to dream personality and straightens matters out in a semi-slapstick finish which disposes of various villains and wins him promotion and bride.

Virginia Mayo and Ann Rutherford play the girls in Mitty's life, Fay Bainter his mother, Thurston Hall his employer, and Boris Karloff the sinister psychiatrist seeking information in Mitty's possession regarding hidden jewels. Ken Englund and Everett Freeman devised the melodramatic plot, played out in something like cartoon-strip overtones. Norman Z. McLeod directed.

The attraction figures to play prosperously in areas where Kaye has a strong personal following since it depends almost solely upon his talent, but it should produce an adequate return most anywhere.

Running time, 110 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

ATA-MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

for several months, although this was flatly denied when MOTION PICTURE DAILY checked reports of the discussions during May and June.

ATA directors already have approved the proposed merger in principle. The bulletin points out that "of the 24 officers and directors of the MPTOA, 18 are directors or members of ATA." This would indicate there is a sufficient majority on the MPTOA side to carry the proposal.

Among those scheduled to arrive here this week to attend the meeting are: Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president; Ted Gamble, ATA chairman; R. J. O'Donnell, E. V. Richards, R. B. Wilby, Mitchell Wolfson, prospective president of the new organization; Lewen Pizor, MPTOA chairman; Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, who is slated for the same post in the new organization; Morris Loewentsein, MPTOA secretary; J. J. O'Leary, MPTOA treasurer, and others.

UA Product Meets

(*Continued from page* 1)

in Philadelphia, on July 22 in Boston and on July 24 in Cleveland.

Meanwhile, Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director for UA, will begin a series of Coast discussions with United Artists producers this week on advertising-publicity product budgets and campaigns for the company's forthcoming product for the balance of 1947 and 1948.

The meetings called by Schnitzer are in line with his policy of conveying to all sales personnel under his supervision in the field the proceedings at the company's recent district managers' sales meetings.

Lazarus will confer during his two-week Coast visit with producers Seymour Nebenzal, Samuel Bischoff, Sam Coslow, Benedict Bogeaus, Hunt Stromberg, William Cagney, Boris Morros and other UA producers. He will carry with him a full report to producers of matters discussed at the advertising session of the company's three-day sales meeting last week.

WATCH
RECORDS
FALL
when
"CARNEGIE HALL"
is in
general
release
in
August!
Released thru UA

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Distributors to Probe Owners' Complaints

Berger Says Several to Study Policy Changes

MINNEAPOLIS, July 14.—Policy-making executives of several distributors have agreed to study complaints of small independent exhibitors as registered by North Central Allied, Ben Berger, Minneapolis owner and head of NCA disclosed here upon his return from conferences with distributors in New York. Policy adjustments will be made where deemed necessary, he added.

"A number of things are cooking," Berger said, "indicating that the policy makers seem to be more receptive than heretofore to consideration of

(*Continued on page 2*)

Chaplin Can Name UA Head: Pickford

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—Mary Pickford will leave the selection of a president for United Artists up to Charles Chaplin as senior partner in the ownership of U.A., and will make no more announcements, she told the press here at the weekend.

Through a spokesman, Chaplin said he has "no news," and indicated he has no intention of taking action in the matter immediately. The two partners have not met since Miss Pickford's return from New York.

Chaplin last week vetoed Miss Pickford's plan to make George Bagnall president of U. A., Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president, and to name an executive committee of three, all for an interim period.

Leenhouts Named to Head Industry Films

Hollywood, July 14.—Grant Leenhouts, who was in charge of the Navy's training film and motion picture branch during the war, has been appointed coordinator-producer of the industry - sponsored series of educational films, the MPA and Motion Picture Academy announced today. He will take office next month.

$11 Millions Loaned For 'U' Changeover

Concentration of Universal-International on "A" product, which included the merger with International Pictures, necessitated the use of Universal's cash reserves and the borrowing of $11,000,000 from banks, J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman, said yesterday in a statement to stockholders and employes.

Cowdin also reported that the new decree selling method delayed the distribution of some Universal pictures and resulted in a substantial increase in the cost of distribution. He said that despite its effect on current earnings, he believes the end result of the new method will be favorable to the company.

Both production and distribution costs are too high and constitute one of the serious problems confronting the industry today, he said. "It is up to management to eliminate any wasteful or extravagant practices and up to the workers to do their part by making the most productive use of their equipment and time," he said.

Declaring that J. Arthur Rank pictures can be expected to increase in popularity here, Cowdin said that the preservation of the British market for American films is essential to the prosperity of every American film company and every worker in the film industry, but the British must be allowed to earn dollars here if they are to pay for the exhibition of our pictures there.

Coast Unions Name E-L in Complaint

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—Charging violation of both the Wagner act and Taft-Hartley law, four Hollywood unions, including the Painters, Carpenters, Machinists and Set Decorators have filed charges of unfair labor practices with the National Labor Relations Board against Eagle-Lion. They contend that the studio, by agreement with IATSE, "coerced and intimidated" 80 members of the crafts organized by the complainants, by threatening termination of employment unless they joined IATSE locals or obtained IATSE work permits.

Press Plan for Low Cost Film Workers

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—Roy Brewer, IATSE international representative, said a committee will be appointed to study the possibilities of a plan devised by I. E. Chadwick, president of the Independent M. P. Producers Association, by which union labor and

(*Continued on page 2*)

Cinecolor Reduces 35mm. Print Price

Hollywood, July 14. — A price decrease of one-half cent per foot on all Cinecolor 35mm. release prints became effective today on all current and outstanding contracts, William T. Crespinel, Cinecolor president, announced.

A similar decrease in cost was announced by Herbert T. Kalmus, Technicolor president, last week, with the cut retroactive to April 10.

Shanklin Sees Aid In 20th-Fox Plan

RONCEVERTE, W. Va., July 14.—Praising the recently announced sales policy of A. W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox sales manager, for subsequents and distress theatre cases as a genuine business assistance to a deserving element in the trade, James C. Shanklin, president of West Virginia Managers Association, an MPTOA affiliate, today expressed the hope that other companies would take similar action.

Estimating that approximately 6,000 theatres might be benefited by the 20th-Fox plan, Shanklin said in a letter to Smith: "Keep us in business with a live-and-let-live policy and we will keep you in business."

"I may be old-fashioned," Shanklin added, "but I still believe a few bouquets for distributors, when merited, will do more for the industry than brackbats."

'Regulation' Means Competition: Richey

CEDAR POINT, O., July 14.—"Some type of regulation" of the industry is inevitable and the result will be a freeing of competition, perhaps through competitive bidding, Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, said today in an address be-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Avoid New Taft Law, 'Collarites' Are Told

The United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, which has locals in the motion picture industry, has advised all of its affiliates not to utilize the procedures of the National Labor Relations Board as set up under the Taft-Hartley Act, according

(*Continued on page 2*)

Para. Partners Giving British Films a 'Break'

Verbal Assurance Won By Rank on Bookings

NEW ORLEANS, July 14. — J. Arthur Rank won verbal commitments at least from many of Paramount's theatre partners with whom he met here over the weekend to give British films a "break" in their theatres.

This was determined yesterday after a second dinner meeting given for Rank by E. V. Richards, head of Paramount Richards Theatres, on Saturday night at which only Paramount theatre partners and associates were present. The initial dinner meeting Friday night was attended by circuit and independent theatre operators from many localities in addition to the Paramount partners.

The general exhibitor reaction to Rank and his request that British pictures be given a break in Southern theatres, where they have made virtually no advances up to now, was

(*Continued on page 3*)

19 Airlines File For Reduced Rates

WASHINGTON, July 14.—Air Cargo tomorrow will file with the Civil Aeronautics Board, on behalf of 19 airlines, new air freight rates calling for a 25 per cent reduction from present rates. The new schedule will be effective August 1. The film industry, large user of air freight will be among the beneficiaries of the new rate, which has been expected.

The proposed rates, which are subject to CAB approval, will reduce the average charge from 26.5 cents a ton-mile to 20 cents. The spread will be

(*Continued on page 2*)

US Minnesota Tax Up to $6,813,000

Minnesota, July 14. — Federal admissions tax collections in Minnesota for 1946-47 zoomed $952,000 to $6,813,000, according to the annual report of the state collector of internal revenue. Previous year's take was $5.861,000.

Personal Mention

OSCAR A. DOOB returned to the home office yesterday from visits to Loew's theatres in Cleveland, Toledo, Akron and Canton, O.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, arrived here yesterday from New Orleans to spend a month at the home office in an advisory and executive capacity under the plan recently instituted by WILLIAM F. RODGERS, general sales chief.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Eastern advertising-publicity chief for Selznick Releasing Organization, returned here yesterday from Mexico City.

•

MARVIN SCHENCK has returned to New York from a 10-day visit at the M-G-M studios.

•

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of Malco Theatres, Memphis, will leave for a Hollywood visit this week.

•

CLIFF LEWIS, advertising-publicity director for Argosy and ARKO Pictures, will head for Hollywood today.

To Probe Complaints

(Continued from page 1)

the small exhibitor's problems. I feel certain we are now getting somewhere."

Berger said he had agreed to hold up a full-page advertisement intended for publication in a Washington (D. C). daily newspaper in return for "an honest and sincere" study of the association's complaints against film policies affecting the small town and small suburban theatres. The ad, said to be already set up in type, urges President Truman and Congress to probe the entire motion picture industry unless relief is granted "the little fellow," who is termed "helpless" in the hands of distributors.

The NCA leader said that neither he personally, or the NCA board of directors want Government control or intervention in the film business, but that "we prefer it to the present 'trampling under' of the independent exhibitor by the industry's policy makers."

Berger said that while local distributor representatives "are well aware of the precarious position of the small exhibitor," top men are not familiar with the conditions which bring about complaints. "If they knew these problems I believe they would change them," he said. "We can prove that the small towns can't make money under present high film rentals, and we insist that 40 per cent and 50 per cent for rentals is plain extortion," Berger declared, adding that "a change of policy must be taken, and soon."

Berger will call a meeting of the NCA board in three or four weeks to review progress made by distributors to adjust policies now under attack, with decision to "go ahead with or forget" the full-page advertisement hinging on action of the board.

Kandel Will Erect 2 Film Buildings Here

Plans for a new 12-story film exchange building and an adjoining three-story film vault containing 180 vaults were announced here yesterday by M. J. Kandel, president of Bonded Film Storage Co. Both projects will be on 43rd.

Tenants in the larger building will have access to the vaults in the vault building. Vaults in the 12-story structure will be limited to actual needs for work to be done on the premises. Plans for the film vault building have already been approved by the building and fire departments here and work will be started immediately. Construction on the film building will be started within 90 days.

Ohio Rules Valueless Space Not Taxable

COLUMBUS, O., July 14.—Footage in a theatre building which has become obsolete or useless due to changing business conditions is valueless to the owner "and it is unreasonable for an assessing body not to consider this factor of functional depreciation in arriving at a tax valuation," ruled the Ohio State Supreme Court in finding for RKO's Palace Theatre, here, on appeal for a reduction of taxes on the property.

The circuit contended that some 400,000 cubic feet in the building previously used for vaudeville, since discontinued, was valueless and not taxable.

Petersen To Leave War Dept. July 31

WASHINGTON, July 14.—President Truman today announced the resignation, effective July 31, of Howard C. Petersen, Assistant Secretary of War for Occupied Areas.

Petersen has been determining War Department policy on the German film program, and recently held a conference on the problem with top industry representatives. His office indicated he would probably clear up remaining details of the German film situation before leaving to resume private law practice. No successor has been named.

Chas. Weiner Named SRO Canada Manager

MINNEAPOLIS, July 14.—Charles Weiner, Selznick Releasing Organization branch manager, here, has been promoted to division manager for the company in Canada. Replacing Weiner here is Conrad Kreidberg, formerly associated with Republic and Producers Releasing Corp. Sam Horowitz, Midwestern sales manager for SRO, made the appointments.

UJA Luncheon Today To Speed Campaign

Barney Balaban, national chairman of the motion picture division of the United Jewish Appeal, and other industry leaders will be on the dais today at an emergency luncheon meeting at the Hotel Astor here to speed the UJA drive. Al Jolson will be guest of honor.

UOPWA Advises

(Continued from page 1)

to instructions from its general executive board.

Setting forth a 12-point program for the guidance of all locals, the UOPWA declares that the board has "now been converted into a union-busting agency" and that the use of it can lead only "to interminable and fruitless tangles."

The UOPWA also urged the immediate review of all existing contracts with a view to strengthening them and extending them during the 60-day period before certain features of the law take effect. It urged particular attention in this connection to union security and protecting of the hiring rights of minority groups.

The union also called upon its locals to engage in united action with the entire labor movement to bring about repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Low Cost Workers

(Continued from page 1)

guild talent could work on low-budget films for corresponding wage scales under a "separate category."

The plan was discussed at a week-end meeting with IA executives and will be taken up with the Screen Actors Guild tonight. A SAG spokesman said Chadwick's plan will be heard in full but no decision will be made immediately.

It is understood the proposal would apply only to films budgeted up to $60,000 and with a six-day shooting limit. Chadwick will meet with basic unions following tonight's session with SAG.

19 Airlines File

(Continued from page 1)

from 33 cents a ton-mile for small packages moving short distances to 14 cents for plane-load shipments of 16,000 pounds or more. Pickup and delivery service will be provided at 2,150 cities and towns in 45 states.

Airlines to participate in the new tariff include: American, Branff, Chicago and Southern, Colonial, Continental, Delta, Eastern, Inland, Mid-Continent, Monarch, National, Northeast, Northwest, Pennsylvania-Central, Pioneer, Southwest, TWA, United and Western.

Monogram Group Is Off to Convention

HOLLYWOOD, July 14.—A large contingent, headed by Monogram president Steve Broidy, has left here for Oklahoma City to attend a joint convention of Allied Artists and Monogram, scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

In addition to Broidy, the party includes George D. Burrows, Harold Mirisch, Scott R. Dunlap, with Mrs. Dunlap, Jeffrey Bernerd, Frank King, George B. West, Howard Stubbins, M. J. E. McCarthy, John R. Harrington, and William Z. Porter.

Reeves in New Quarters

Reeves Sound Studios will be hosts today to the press and trade at a reception at new studios, here.

Murtha, Shay Named To Head 'IA' Distric

UTICA, July 14.—Thomas Murtha local No. 4, IATSE, Brooklyn, wa reelected president of district No. 1 at the district's annual convention her yesterday. L. Paul Shay, of local N 289, Elmira, was reelected secretary treasurer.

Named to the district executiv board were: Murtha, Shay, Sa Scoppa of local No. 52, New Yor City; Albert Ryde, local No. 23 Buffalo; Donald R. Rood, loca [illegible] 128, Utica; M. J. Mungovan, loc [illegible] 25, Rochester; Arthur Martens, loca No. 366 and 650, Westchester. Jame J. Brennan, international vice-president, presided, while Thomas Shea assistant international president, representing "IA" president Richard F Walsh, was the chief speaker. Mor than 150 attended.

Johnston in Prague

PRAGUE, July 14.—The Czechoslovakia Film Monopoly gave a dinner yesterday in honor of Eric Johnston president of the Motion Picture Association, who is visiting here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
PAT O'BRIEN · WALTER SLEZAK · ANNE JEFFREYS
in
'RIFF-RAFF'
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Claudette COLBERT
Fred MacMURRAY
in
BETTY MacDONALD'S
'THE EGG and I'
IN PERSON
VINCENT LOPEZ
HIS PIANO & ORCHESTRA
Plus REVUE

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
34TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE"
in TECHNICOLOR
Starring
BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM"
ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA
AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Para. Partners

(*Continued from page* 1)

favorable. Typical reactions were that Rank's approach was good and his request reasonable.

"Give our pictures an honest opportunity," Rank told them, "and we are willing to have them earn what they deserve, strictly on their merit." He pointed out that he is signing American stars to appear in his pictures, "believing that these American personalities will help you put over British pictures and British stars in your theatres at this stage of the game. We believe that we are attracting an entirely new type of audience to your theatres with our pictures."

Robert B. Wilby of Atlanta, head of Wilby-Kincey Theatres, who told Rank he was the son of a Yorkshireman himself, agreed that English pictures must be given every opportunity here but said Rank is "impatient" about attaining his objectives. The market must first be prepared for the pictures, he argued, and in the meantime most Americans are doing their bit toward sending dollars to England by consuming Scotch whisky.

Most of the Paramount partners reported they had booked "Stairway to Heaven" and "Great Expectations" on their merits in advance of Rank's appearance here. They subjected him to considerable questioning and were frank in their appraisal of his "Black Narcissus," which was screened here, telling Rank that while it was a good production in their opinion, they failed to see good entertainment in it.

J. Arthur Rank and Mrs. Rank, accompanied by Nate J. Blumberg, Universal president, and Jock Lawrence of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, arrived in New York from New Orleans yesterday.

Busy Schedule for Rank On His Return Here

Yesterday in New York J. Arthur Rank had lunch with 20th Century-Fox president Spyros P. Skouras and members of the 20th-Fox board; he then met with E. A. Williford of Agfa Ansco, with Matthew Fox and other Universal-International executives, had discussions with Rome E. Betts of the Protestant Film Commission, and Louis Blumberg of Prestige Pictures. Last evening he had dinner with Nate Blumberg, U-I president, and actor John Mills, and was M-G-M's guest at a showing of "The Hucksters."

Rank was scheduled to have breakfast here today with J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal-International board chairman, lunch with Nicholas Schenck, M-G-M president, and this afternoon will meet Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and the Schlessinger Brothers who are also visiting the U. S. and with whom he is associated in theatres in South Africa. Today he will also meet with executives in the wheat industry, in which Rank also has large interests, and also will meet with some bankers.

Tomorrow morning Rank will have breakfast with Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio vice-president, and Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign operations. Tomorrow afternoon he will be the guest of David Sarnoff, RCA president, at a television demonstration at Princeton, N. J., and he will have dinner tomorrow evening with Robert R. Young.

Thursday morning Rank will sail for England on the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth* after spending two and a half months in the U. S.

Seek $1,000,000 from Rank In Breach-of-Contract Suit

J. Arthur Rank, Leo Spitz, William Goetz and six corporations in which Rank holds interests are named defendants in a breach of distribution contract filed in New York Federal Court yesterday by Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., and its affiliate, United World Pictures of Canada, Ltd., both of Toronto.

The plaintiffs seek damages of $1,000,000 from Rank who, they charge, was the "influencing factor" in the alleged contract breach.

The J. Arthur Rank Organization, United World Pictures, Inc., Universal Pictures, International Pictures, Eagle-Lion and General Cinema Finance Corp., Ltd., also are named in the action.

The Canadian distributors allege they had obtained the distribution franchise for Canada and Newfoundland of all pictures which were to be released here through United World, which dissolved before it actually began operations, and ask that the pact be made applicable to successor companies.

The action was initiated in Toronto where approval to bring the case to New York was granted.

Date 'Roosevelt Story'

"The Roosevelt Story," a feature-length semi-documentary, covering the last 40 years in the life of the late President, will run simultaneously in two Broadway theatres after a premiere at Brandt's Globe on Aug. 21, it will open also on the next day at Brandt's Republic.

E-L's 'Stallion' in 100 N. T. Houses

Final plans for a 100-theatre day-and-date opening of Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor "Red Stallion" in top key houses of the National Theatres circuit, will be set Wednesday following a Hollywood studio screening of the pic for Charles Skouras, National Theatres circuit head. A. W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion vice-president, and Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity, leave New York today for conferences with Skouras.

Liggett Will Manage Steifel Booking Firm

Jules E. Liggett, formerly with the Island Theatre circuit, will now handle the Steifel Booking Agency here. Liggett said the agency, which buys and books films, would handle a minimum of 40 theatres.

Liggett said that Samuel Steifel, who formerly actively headed the agency, has been in ill health and plans to go to California. In accordance with an agreement with Steifel, Liggett will act as general manager.

Richey

(*Continued from page* 1)

fore the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.

It follows, he continued, that "the only protection a theatre owner will have is that of showmanship: More competition in exhibition, production and distribution simply means that the fellow who thinks that the business owes him a living is strictly out of luck."

The exhibitor group will conclude its annual convention on Wednesday.

Stockholder Files 2 Suits Against Para.

Barney Balaban, president, and 17 officers and directors of Paramount are named in a stockholder's suit filed in New York Federal Court here yesterday objecting to the sale of $2,000,000 in promissory notes by the company to Balaban. The plaintiff, Hyman Horwitz, filed a second suit seeking to enjoin the company from financing the organization of the Employes' Investment Co., which would be, in effect, a profit-sharing plan for top personnel.

CTA Meet Tomorrow; To Name New Officers

San Francisco, July 14.—Election of a new president to succeed George Nasser, of Nasser Theatres, will highlight the annual meeting of the California Theatres Association which will be held here Wednesday.

Election of a new board of directors will be the first order of business. The new board will then elect a president.

Marcel Varnel, 52

London, July 14.—Marcel Varnel, 52, French-born director, was killed here yesterday in an automobile accident, while on his first production assignment for Columbia. Varnel, who went to the U. S. in 1925 as a stage director for the Shuberts, joined Fox as a film director that same year.

James I. Foy Dies

Toronto, July 14.—James Innman Foy, manager of the Famous Players' Regent Theatre, Oshawa, Ont., and associated with Toronto film exchanges and as theatre manager for 27 years, has passed away in his 50th year.

ANOTHER SOURCE OF SUPPLY
•
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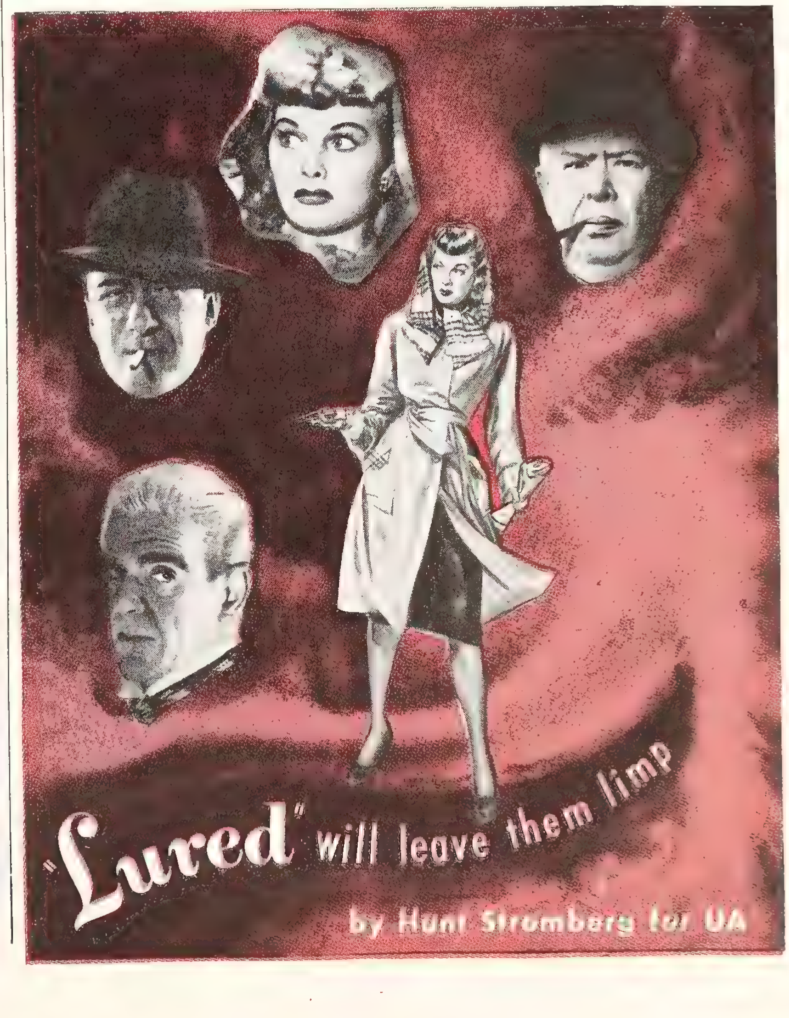
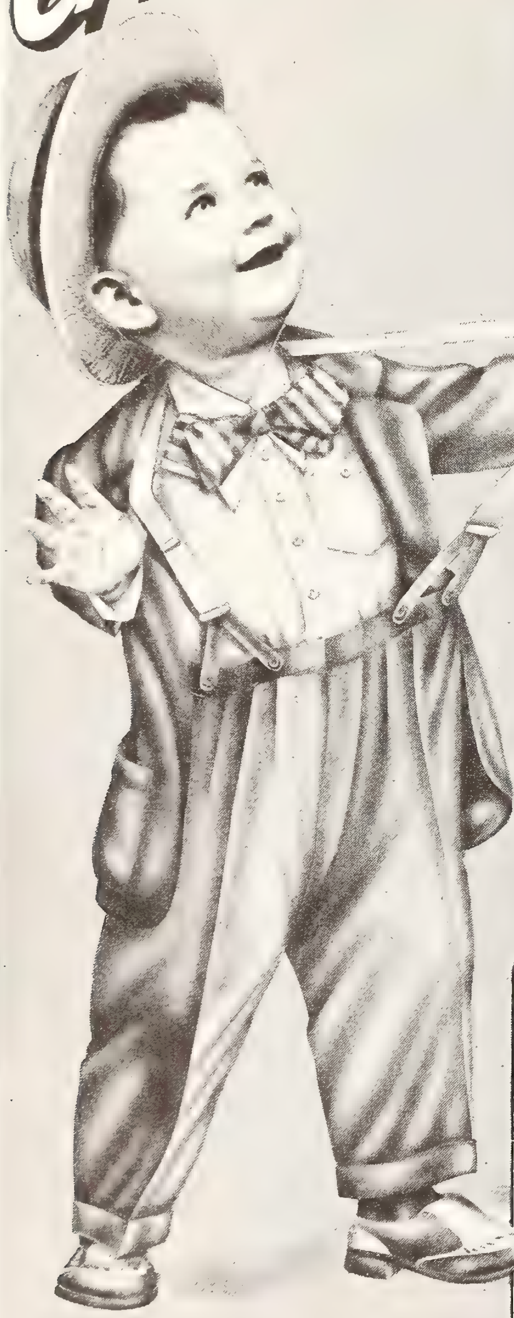


"Lured" will leave them limp
by Hunt Stromberg for UA

Boy... am I PROUD!



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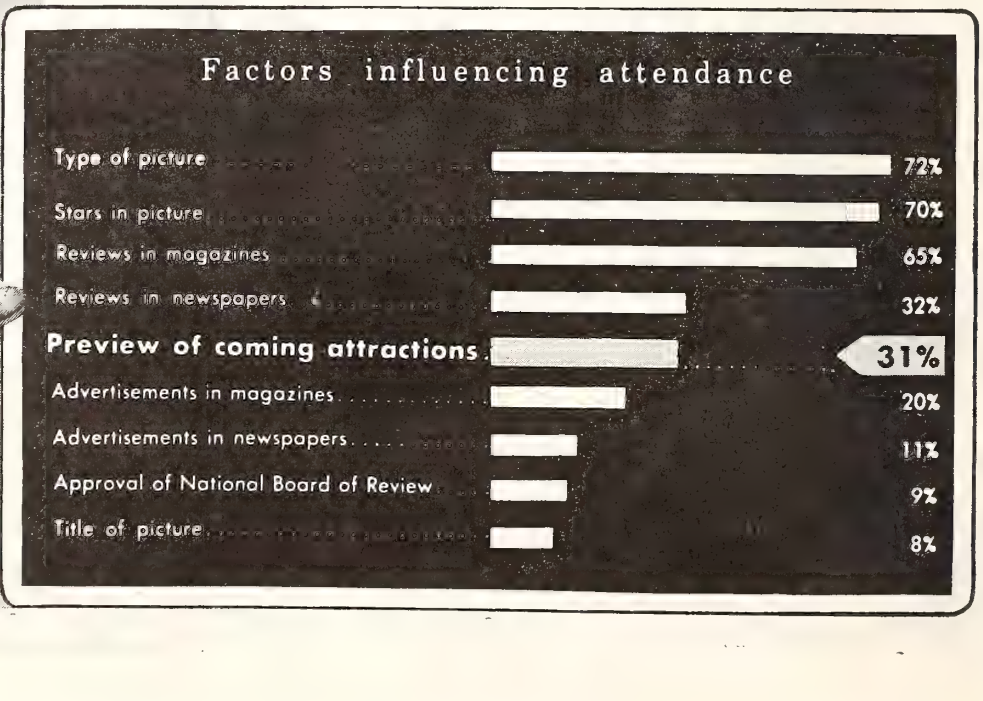

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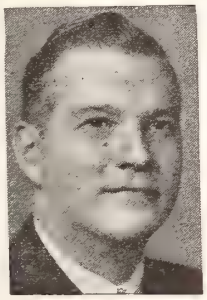
Business Seen Back to Peak Level in Fall

Reagan Cites New Films And Urges Showmanship

Theatre grosses are likely to climb to the more attractive levels of recent years after this summer in the opinion of Charles M. Reagan, Paramount distribution vice-president, who draws the conclusion from top quality product which he sees forthcoming from all the principal distributors.



Charles Reagan

"The right picture properly merchandised and exploited will do business at any time and under any conditions," he submitted, coupling this with an at-

(*Continued on page 8*)

CEA Sees Delay in Film Duty to Oct.

London, July 15.—The Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, commenting on the possibility of adoption of an import duty on films as a means of protecting England's position with respect to her dollar holdings, has observed that "any further action is unlikely until after the next dollar review in October."

If the power to levy the duty is granted the government, the CEA

(*Continued on page 7*)

Myers Sees Repeal Of Admissions Tax

Cedar Point, O., July 15.—Abram Myers, general counsel of National Allied, today told the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio here that he believed the Federal admissions tax as it applies to the motion picture industry stands a "good chance" of being repealed on the basis of having the industry classi-

(*Continued on page 8*)

NY 1st-Run Income Good

The majority of New York's first run situations held up fair enough this week in spite of the number of holdovers and, of course, the obvious detrimental effects of the warm weekend.

"The Perils of Pauline," with Perry Como on the stage, appears to have emerged on top of the league with a huge $93,000 estimated for the first week. A first week of "The Trouble with Women" at the Globe is about adequate, estimated at $17,500. "Copacabana" got off to a rather sluggish start at the Broadway, where about $10,000 is indicated for a first week.

A reissue combination of "Congorilla" and "Bornea" figures to bring the Gotham a relatively high $17,000 in a first week. A second week of "Repeat Performance" at the Rivoli probably will result in a modest gross of $12,000.

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," with the stage show, at the Music Hall is holding its own nicely, with $128,-

(*Continued on page 6*)

SRO in Negotiations With Independents

Hollywood, July 15.—Selznick Releasing Corp. will begin negotiations this week for various independent producers for the release of their product through SRO, David O. Selznick disclosed today. Selznick returned

(*Continued on page 8*)

U. S. Stars Earned $672,000 in Britain

London, July 15.—American stars in England for the year ending March 31, earned 85,000 pounds ($340,000), and from March 31 to July 10, 83,000 pounds ($332,000), Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton said today in the House of Commons.

No comparable dollar earnings of British stars in America were available.

More Playing Time For American Films Expected in Holland

An improved playing time status is in the offing for American films in Holland, with an increase of at least four weeks a year over the present 28 weeks possible on the basis of an offer which has been made by the Dutch Ministry of Education.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Arnold Childhouse, vice-president of the Motion Picture Export Association's Netherlands organization, who, although pointing out that the MPEA's goal in that country is completely unfettered distribution of MPEA-sponsored pictures, views the imminent improvement in the situation as gratifying.

Childhouse explained that the distributor element of the Dutch Bio-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Jolson, Balaban Appeals Stir Huge UJA Audience

Deeply moving appeals by Al Jolson and Barney Balaban at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here yesterday increased the New York industry's contributions to the United Jewish Appeal by large amounts.

More than 300 persons, among them leading executives of all branches of the industry, were stirred by Jolson's word picture of a youthful casualty of German concentration camps whose tattered garments he displayed.

"UJA offers to European Jews their only hope of building a decent life," Jolson told his listeners. "Today, nothing is being done to materially improve their postwar world. They are allowed 25 cents per day on which to subsist in Displaced Persons

(*Continued on page 7*)

First Postwar Video Commercial License

Washington, July 15.—The first commercial television license since the war has been issued to WNBT of the National Broadcasting Co., New York, the Federal Communications Commission announced today.

The Commission also reported the first FM licenses issued since the war: to WFBL-FM, Syracuse, N. Y.; WIBW-FM, Topeka, Kans.; WINC-FM, Winchester, Va.; and WOPI-FM, Bristol, Tenn.

ATA Stand on Intervention Chills Merger

MPTOA Seen Unlikely to Compromise on Issue

Uncompromising stands by both American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America on the former's action to intervene in the government's New York anti-trust suit are viewed as threatening the proposed merger of the two organizations, almost on the eve of their meeting to discuss the affliation, it was learned yesterday.

Both Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, and Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive secretary, declared yesterday that ATA has no intention of withdrawing from the intervention action now before the U. S. Supreme Court, after its having been denied by the New York Federal court, and said if MPTOA will not go along on this point a merger could not be effected.

Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, is en route here from St. Louis and could not be reached for comment yesterday, but MPTOA spokesmen

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ascap May Postpone Tax Change Plan

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' planned revision of its theatre performing right licensing structure reportedly will be the subject of the organization's next board meeting here, on July 23, with present indications pointing to holding the program in abeyance until pend-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Library of Congress Film Section Ended

Washington, July 15.—Both the House and Senate late today approved a conference report to end the Library of Congress motion picture section. The conferees allotted the unit $12,000 for liquidation expenses.

Plans for the film section to serve

(*Continued on page 7*)

3 Reviews Today

"Lured" is reviewed on page 4, "Slave Girl" and "The Trespasser" on page 8. Key city gross reports on page 6.

Personal Mention

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor and public relations head, is due back here today from Ohio.

•

Louise Farrell, secretary to James J. Murphy, executive director of the motion picture division of the American Arbitration Association, was married recently to Lt. Norman F. Smoak, U. S. Maritime Service.

•

Hugh Findlay, publicity director for M-G-M's British studios, will sail for England tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*, while Robert Ryan, RKO Radio star, will head for Berlin via England.

•

Billy Wilder, Paramount director, and a camera crew will sail from New York on July 29th on the *SS America* to shoot background shots in occupied Germany.

•

Abel Green, editor of *Variety;* Herbert Wilcox and Anna Neagle are among passengers scheduled to sail for England from New York tomorrow.

•

Hal Wallis will leave England on the *Queen Elizabeth* Aug. 27. Accompanying him will be Ray Milland and Geraldine Fitzgerald.

•

Claud Morris, Selznick Releasing Organization exploitation manager, and Irwin Zeltner, field man, are in Cincinnati from New York.

•

Maurice Seidlitz, Loew New York division manager, has returned to his desk after recuperating from a minor operation.

•

M. L. Simon, editor of M-G-M's *The Distributor* and assistant to H. M. Richey, will leave here for Toronto Aug. 11.

•

E. S. Seeley, chief engineer for Altec, is recuperating at his home here from a leg fracture.

•

Ed Hinchy, head of the Warner play-date department, has returned here from Cleveland.

•

Sam Venus has been appointed manager of the York Theatre, Philadelphia.

•

Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern district manager for Warners, is in Boston.

Wolfe Heads AMPP Unit

Hollywood, July 15.—Wallace V. Wolfe, West Coast chairman of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, has been appointed director of research on a three-year contract for the Association of Motion Picture Producers' motion picture research council, Y. Frank Freeman, AMPP board chairman and head of the research council, announced. William F. Kelley, research council manager, will become assistant to Wolfe, who has been with the RCA-Victor division for the past 11 years.

Room for Business Expansion: Fabian

S. H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres and president of the American Theatres Association, opened a three-day convention of the circuit's city, district and theatre managers here yesterday at the Hotel Astor on a note of optimism with the declaration that there is a "vast area for sound business expansion although the lush wartime profits may be a thing of the past."

He stated that showmen today can find an "outlet for their originality and aggressiveness in promoting the theatre to its place as a community institution. The pattern of our business has changed radically, but as never before, it demands sound thinking, imagination and discrimination in those to whom it is entrusted."

Other speakers were Ed Fabian, Harold Fisher, Mary Becker and Joseph Eagan, all of the circuit, and guest speakers Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman, and Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director. Attending the convention were approximately 75 members of the Fabian organization.

Set Paramount Sales Drive Plans Here

Final plans for participation of the New York branch in Paramount's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive, Aug. 31 to Nov. 29, were discussed yesterday. The two-day meeting closes today.

Conducting the conference is Harold Wirthwein, assistant West Coast district manager, who is captain of the drive. Speakers included Henry Randel, New York district manager, and Myron Sattler, branch manager. Home office executives present were: Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager; Oscar Morgan, short subjects sales manager; Clinton J. Scollard, special assistant to Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution; Jack Roper, assistant to Owen, and Monroe Goodman, assistant to Morgan.

Kitty Flynn, booker, and Rose McConnell of the shipping department have been named New York branch drive captains.

Goldman Files Notice Of Opening Erlanger

Philadelphia, July 15.—An affidavit has been filed in the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here stating that William Goldman Theatres will open the Erlanger Theatre on Aug. 30 for first-run motion pictures.

This is believed to be a result of the recent action taken in the Goldman Theatres' anti-trust and monopoly suits which involved the Erlanger Theatre, and in which the defendants charged that "Goldman never intended to operate the Erlanger, and did not consider it suitable for the profitable exhibition of feature motion pictures, preferring to play the product offered him by the defendants in the Goldman, Keith and Karlton."

MPEA Aids Munich To Resume 'Dubbing'

Washington, July 15. — The War Department announced that synchronization of U. S. films into the German language, suspended temporarily in Munich because of lack of film rawstock, has been resumed with the arrival of 250,000 feet of sound recording film sent by the Motion Picture Export Association.

Reich Films Depend On Stable Germany

Washington, July 15.—The German film industry may be set for expansion, State Department officials said today, if the new State Department policy of building a "stable and productive" Germany is applied.

New State Department policy in occupied Germany made public here today emphasizes economic measures necessary for the rehabilitation of the country. The present low level of German industry "should not permanently limit Germany's industrial capacity," the directive reads.

Just how much of this rehabilitation will apply specifically to films is up to American zone commander General Lucius D. Clay, State Department spokesmen said. He must determine how much manpower and material can be diverted to the motion picture industry.

Mono. Doing Well Abroad: Johnston

Business is off 15 per cent in Europe since the first of the year, but Monogram is doing "exceptionally well" there, W. Ray Johnston, chairman of the board of Monogram, said yesterday upon his arrival here aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

Johnston said that the company did not contemplate opening branches abroad, and that its franchises there are doing well. He added that during his three months abroad, he had visited England, France, Holland, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy.

Johnston will remain here for nine days, and then will go to the Coast.

Seeks Suit Dismissal

Paramount yesterday filed an answer to a stockholder's Federal Court suit here against formation of its employes investment corporation and declared that 75 per cent of the voting shares of Paramount common approved the plan. The company asked dismissal of the suit.

Films Not Affected

Washington, July 15.—The State and Commerce Departments report that motion pictures are not on the list of commodities affected by Mexico's recent action suspending some non-essential imports and increasing duties on others.

Three Awards Made By Boston AAA

Three awards have been handed down by the Motion Picture Arbitration Tribunal at Boston.

A consent award granting one day maximum clearance over the York Beach Theatre, York Beach, Me., has been granted for licenses henceforth to be entered into by the majors with the Colonial Theatre and the Ol[illegible], both in Portsmouth, N. H., in the case of first-runs.

A consent award granting seven days maximum clearance over the Coolidge Theatre in Watertown, Mass., has been granted the Central Square in Cambridge, Mass., on first-runs, and seven days over the Coolidge has been granted the University Theatre, Cambridge, on either first- or second-runs.

Under an arbitrator's award no clearance over Narragansett Pier Amusement's Community Theatre, Wakefield, R. I., may be granted in licenses henceforth entered into by the majors with the Strand, Majestic, Albee, Loew's State, Carlton and Fay's Theatre, Providence. It was found that the competition which exists is not sufficiently substantial to warrant clearance. Narragansett was the complainant.

20th-Fox Sales Meet Tomorrow, Friday

The third and final meeting of a series of three regional sales meetings set by 20th Century-Fox, will be held at the Carlton Hotel in Washington, tomorrow and Friday.

Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, is flying to the Washington sessions from Cedar Point, O. Home office executives who will attend include: Spyros P. Skouras, president; William C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith; Peter Levathes, short subject sales manager; Sam Shain, director of exhibitor and public relations; Clarence Hill, manager of branch operations; Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director; Rodney Bush, exploitation manager; Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager, and Roger Ferri, editor of *New Dynamo.*

Chakeres House Burns

London, O., July 15.—Fire believed to have resulted from defective wiring destroyed equipment and film at Chakeres' Majestic Theatre here. The audience left the theatre in an orderly manner when smoke filled the auditorium. The house is managed by Nick Condello.

Columbia Dividend

A quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on the $4.25 cumulative preferred stock of Columbia Pictures Corp., payable Aug. 15, 1947, to stockholders of record Aug. 1, 1947, was declared yesterday by the company's board of directors.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address, "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N.W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

1,000 THEATRES WILL HAVE NEW RECORDS THIS MONTH!

M-G-M's "THE HUCKSTERS" NOW PLAYING!

Kalmine Conducting Washington Meet

Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, concludes a two-day meeting of the Washington zone today in that city. Home office executives accompanying Kalmine to the capital from here for the sessions included W. Stewart McDonald, vice-president of Warner Theatres, and Rudolph Weiss, head of the real estate department.

John J. Payette, zone manager, and all managers of theatres in that territory attended the meeting.

Set 'Stallion' World Premiere for Aug. 13

World premiere of Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor, "Red Stallion," has been set for Aug. 13 at the Interstate Circuit's Majestic Theatre in Houston, Texas, it was announced yesterday jointly by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and general sales manager, and R. J. O'Donnell, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Circuit.

The premiere will be followed with openings in all top key-city theatres of the circuit.

Air Cargo Files for 6½¢ Rate Reduction

WASHINGTON, July 15.—Air Cargo, Inc., filed with the Civil Aeronautics Board today air freight rates which call for a 25 per cent reduction. Film companies are large users of air freight.

The new tariff schedule, to be effective Aug. 1 subject to CAB approval, was filed for 19 airlines. Rates will be reduced on the average from 26.5 cents per ton mile to 20 cents.

Review

"Lured"

(Hunt Stromberg—United Artists)

A SUSTAINED tone of suspense and excitement is held throughout "Lured," a polished Hunt Stromberg production for UA release. With a story far superior to the general run of melodramas, supported by an excellent cast that includes George Sanders, Lucille Ball, Charles Coburn and Boris Karloff, the problem of finding exploitation angles appears to be an easy one.

The screenplay, fashioned by Leo Rosten, turns loose on the streets of London a poetry-crazed maniac who engineers the mysterious disappearance of beautiful women. Lonely hearts advertisements in newspapers are the madman's favorite device for luring them. Completely baffled, Scotland Yard decides on a strategem which consists of using lovely Miss Ball as bait. As she responds to the ads, the script calls for her to wear an elegant array of gowns, and brought strutting across the screen are a motley assortment of human oddities. Eventually Miss Ball meets and falls in love with Sanders, a suave man of the world who also happens to be something of a connoisseur when it comes to women.

Exceptional camerawork and the direction of Douglas Sirk build the film up to a successful climax. After many suspects are eliminated, evidence seems neatly planted on Sanders. However, by this time audiences are aware that guilt lies with another. The drama then resolves into a cat-and-mouse game between Coburn, a Scotland Yard inspector, and Sir Cedric Hardwicke, the real criminal.

The fadeout sees Miss Ball where the audiences want her, in Sanders' arms. A stereotyped, but highly amusing effort is made by Karloff as a hallucination-ridden dress designer. As a toughie, Joseph Calleia contributes another notable vignette. Hunt Stromberg was executive producer with James Nasser designated as actual producer.

Running time, 102 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for September release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Coast Runyon Show

HOLLYWOOD, July 15. — An all-star cast is being assembled for an hour-long variety show in behalf of the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund to be held here July 21, with Walter Winchell supervising preparations. The Hollywood Coordinating Committee is arranging the show.

The fine hand of Hunt Stromberg made
"Lured"
for UA

BBC Critic vs. MGM Damage Suit Begins

LONDON, July 15.—The damage action brought by Mrs. Arbuthnot Arnot-Robertson against M-G-M, wherein the former, a film critic who reviews pictures on the British Broadcasting Corp. network, has charged the company with making defamatory statements against her, opened in high court here today. The initial hearing was adjourned after M-G-M had asserted that the letter which the company had written in protest against certain remarks which Mrs. Arnot-Roberston had made about M-G-M films was sent on the conclusion that the plaintiff was more interested in self-exploitation over BBC than in constructive criticism of films.

In its letter to the BBC Talks director, M-G-M said it did not intend to invite Mrs. Arnot-Robertson to review M-G-M films in the future and asked cooperation in restraining her from doing so in BBC broadcasts. Said M-G-M in the letter: "We regret to inform you that, in our judgment, based upon a considerable number of talks given by Mrs. Arnot-Robertson, that critic is completely out of touch with the tastes and entertainment requirements of the picture-going millions, who are also radio listeners, and her criticisms are on the whole harmful to the film industry."

Mage Gets 'Buchenwald'

First prints of "We Lived Through Buchenwald," full-length film of life in the concentration camp, have arrived here. It was produced by the National Belgian Society of Motion Picture Production, and will be released by Mage Films.

To Rebuild Theatre

SEATTLE, July 15.—L. A. Gillespie of Okanogan, whose Orada Theatre in Oroville was destroyed by fire last week, said today that he will rebuild the theatre.

To Force Showing of Mexican Films Soon

Mexico City, July 15. — Enforced exhibition of Mexican pictures will start here soon, the municipal government having informed exhibitors that they must screen Mexican films at least one week monthly.

The move follows a campaign by Mexican produc[illegible] and others for a law deman[illegible]ing that Mexican films have at least 26 weeks playing time per year.

Good Business Seen In China After Peace

"Great potentialities" exist for American film companies in China when the present Chinese political and economic difficulties are settled, Constantin Goldin, United Artists representative in China, said here yesterday.

Goldin joined UA in 1942, when the Japanese had over-run large sections of China. Goldin, a British subject, had formerly operated a theatre in Kowloon, and through chance, rescued some films owned by the company, and undertook to smuggle prints into free China from Hong Kong.

Goldin described various practices used to explain English language films to residents of Shanghai. Several theatres supply special earphones to their patrons, while a translator from the projection booth translates from English into Chinese dialects. Others use superimposed title, while a third practice uses narration on an attached sound track.

American film companies are struggling with many difficulties, he said, including frozen remittances, badly equipped theatres, a 30 per cent amusement tax, and restriction on footage of films permitted to enter the country.

Edict Cuts Buenos Aires Scales 20%

The Argentine government has dictated a 20 per cent reduction in established Buenos Aires theatre admission prices on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday, it was reported here by Joaquin Alberto Lautaret, operator of 135 houses in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay, who is here for a two-month visit. Lautaret said the edict is part of a general government program to cut living costs.

Gets Astor Franchise

SEATTLE, July 15.—Hal Boehme of this city has obtained the Astor Pictures franchise for Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho and Alaska, he announced on his arrival here today from New York. He will distribute these in addition to his Special Attractions pictures.

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CHAPLIN PIC STIRS STORM

'VERDOUX' ON NEWS PAGES OF COUNTRY

True to the Charles Chaplin tradition that each production is a news event, "Monsieur Verdoux" has leaped from drama pages to front pages.

Tabulated clipping returns disclose that "Verdoux" has been accorded more critical acclaim and controversial discussion than any other picture.

Key exhibitors point out that this natural news reception of "Monsieur Verdoux" indicates that Chaplin has his biggest grosser on hand.

Led by the mighty and influential Christian Science Monitor, editorials on "Verdoux" have flooded thousands of newspapers.

The Monitor concluded its editorial with:

"What democracy needs is more education of the public to a higher level of judgment, taste and patriotism."

Top Champion For 'Monsieur Verdoux'

In raging controversy over "Verdoux," famed N. Y. critic, Archer Winsten, of the N. Y. Post, lined up on Chaplin side, wrote in part:

"'Verdoux' will inspire strong champions throughout the country. Most emphatically not a picture to be shunted off among the common run of American pictures, serious or comic . . . it is great in intention, big in theme and thoroughly original.

"An enjoyment of Chaplin's genius of gesture and movement . . . a respect for his courage and conviction."

'Verdoux' Must Be Seen Many Times Says Sage

Harold Clurman, noted author, in July issue of Tomorrow Magazine, writes in part:

"Charles Chaplin's 'Monsieur Verdoux' is one of the most fascinating documents of our day. The picture is great! Chaplin does not escape the world through his comic disguise; he faces it. That is why he is an artist of singular force. Those who do not quite decipher his meaning or who do not wish to fathom it because it disturbs them, would do well to listen and attend again and again. Here is a picture that will not be dismissed!"

TIME, WINCHELL TELL OF 'VERDOUX' SUCCESS

New York.—Walter Winchell today told his twenty-five million readers, and Time Magazine tipped off its five million, that the most extravagant words of praise are being written and said of Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux."

Winchell wrote: "James Agee has written a monumental piece for The Nation in praise of Chaplin's 'Monsieur Verdoux.' Agee thinks the film 'is one of the great works of our time'."

Time Magazine devoted three columns to "Verdoux," hailed it "as the most notable film in years—the most fascinating—" and described Chaplin's portrayal of Verdoux as "one of the most beautiful single performances ever put on film."

Time Magazine summarized:

"The film is a daring individual gesture, dared in an era when such acts are rare. He has replaced his beloved sure-fire tramp with an equally original character. The set pieces of pure slapstick are as skilled and delightful and as psychologically penetrating as any Chaplin has ever contrived."

'Verdoux' Greatest Classic Ever Made

Hailing "Verdoux" as the greatest classic ever made, Federated Press told its hundreds of thousands of readers, in part:

"A film which will stir up controversy, Chaplin's past films are considered the greatest classics yet produced for the screen. All of them are only warm-ups for this new tragi-comedy. 'Monsieur Verdoux' is the finest piece of social satire that has ever been filmed."

Marilyn Nash Returns

Marilyn Nash returned this week from New York and Detroit.

'Verdoux' Gets Great Rave

In a 5000 word review, requiring three installments in The Nation, James Agee, famed critic and magazine author, wrote in part of "Monsieur Verdoux:"

"A magnificent and terrifying song . . . the richness and quality of the film is a work of art, in fact, of genius. I wish I might use the many thousands of words I would require to do it adequate honor purely as fun.

"The anarchic and immortal lily of the field, the tramp, the most humane and most nearly complete among the religious figures our time has evolved has been set aside by Chaplin to give his century its truest portrait of the upright citizen.

"I wish I may faintly express the frame - by - frame appreciation, the gratitude and tribute which we owe this great poet and great poem. Chaplin's performance as Verdoux is the best piece of playing I have ever seen. Verdoux embodies much of the best that can be said of modern civilization."

Critics Applaud 'Verdoux' As Daring Chaplin Winner

With critical acclaim and violent controversy, "Monsieur Verdoux," prepares to meet the public.

Famed critics have written:

National Board of Review: "Exceptional rating. Completely new and fascinating. Greatest of all Chaplin films."

Bosley Crowther, New York Times: "Chaplin believes in using his talent for socking hard . . . screamingly funny . . . He is both satan and faun . . . his performance is remarkably adroit . . . a lot of controversy will be created by 'Monsieur Verdoux'."

Robert Coleman, New York Mirror: "It runs gamut of satire, slapstick, drama and problem drama . . . had first-nighters roaring with laughter . . . it comes from a higher perch than most of the pictures you will enjoy."

Richard L. Coe, Washington Post: "Daringly different . . . a wise and witty picture . . . very funny in its horseplay. It is far more stimulating than any current film."

TOP GROSSES FOR 'VERDOUX' SAY EXHIBS

New York — Precipitating the greatest storm of controversy ever attendant upon the showing of a film, Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux," in a pre-release debut here, conclusively proved that it will be the star's greatest money-making film.

Top exhibitors have applauded the world-wide exploitation plan "to condition" the public to the "most unusual entertainment ever put on the screen."

One of the master advertisements, spearheading the candid campaign, will read:

A WARNING!

Before you see Charles Chaplin in "Monsieur Verdoux" you must know some facts about the most controversial motion picture of all time.

Charles Chaplin, deserting his beloved little tramp character, enacts the role of the slick, sinister and charming French Bluebeard. His business: murder.

Charles Chaplin introduces a revolutionary pattern of screen story-telling, confident the public will welcome the most original humor and the most original drama ever filmed.

There is a peculiar intensity of story and an even more peculiar hysteria of laughter in "Monsieur Verdoux."

We must warn you — and YOU must warn your friends — that you must come prepared to behold something never before shown on the screen.

Please remember, this is not "just another motion picture!"

Charles Chaplin has dared to create for your unforgettable entertainment the diabolical but amusing story once told only in whispers.

But with all its strangeness, there is a pathos and beauty and richness devoted to a love story that will haunt you until pictures are no longer made.

The genius of Chaplin holds a copyright on his type of love story— a love story that hurts, that frightens, that stays with you as a lingering memory.

But remember — a warning — come prepared for the most startling experience you have ever undergone in a motion picture theatre.

Come prepared for the strangest and the most entertaining shock of your life.

—Adv.

(Advertisement)

Exhibitors All Are On The Ball booking

"CARNEGIE HALL"

for General Release in August

Released thru UA

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"Ivy" at the Boyd is the box office leader this week. Business generally, however, remains below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 15-17:

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $17,300. (Average: $31,700)
COPACABANA (UA)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,200)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $27,000)
HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,600)
HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,800)
IVY (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $23,500. (Average: $21,000)
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $24,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,700)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $16,800. (Average: $29,500)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 8th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,500)

CHICAGO

Top business in the loop went to "Dear Ruth" at the Chicago, and "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," at the Oriental theatre. Both houses pulled good crowds. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 14-15:

CHEYENNE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Jo Stafford and Victor Borge. Gross: $70,000. (Average: $59,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 7th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,500)
GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)
IVY (U-I) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $26,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: The Harmonicats and Dale Evans. Gross: $65,000. (Average: $40,000)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $15,600. (Average: $17,500)
POSSESSED (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $30,000)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

CINCINNATI

Despite widely publicized additional outdoor opposition, current grosses on practically all fronts are the best in several months, with "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" leading the field. Weekend weather was warm, with occasional rain. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 16-18:

THE ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Grand. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
FOR THE LOVE OF RUSTY (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualled with **HOMESTEADERS OF PARADISE VALLEY (Rep.).** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,000)
KILLER AT LARGE (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **LAND OF THE LAWLESS (Mono.).** Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,050) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following a first week moveover from the Palace. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)
THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (5,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

TORONTO

Theatre business was down somewhat during the week for both first-run and neighborhood houses, although newspaper reviewers labeled almost every feature as suitable summertime fare. At that, three houses were holding over programs. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 18:

FRAMED (Col.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,300)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—EGLINTON (1,035) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,800)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $9,500)
THE IMPERFECT LADY (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,800)
IVY (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)
LOVE AND LEARN (WB) and CIGARETTE GIRL (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,800)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $13,800)

BALTIMORE

The combination of strong new pictures and mild weather is boosting box offices. Openings were substantial. Considering the season, grosses are not too bad. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 17:

A YANK IN LONDON (20th-Fox)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)
BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 6th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-45c-54c-56c: $5,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — CENTURY) (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)
IVY (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)
NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,500)
THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I) — LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 6th week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)
TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) — HIPPODROME (3,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) With a stage show. Gross: $19,500. Average: $17,500)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,500)

ATLANTA

Business is better than it was during the past few weeks. "Gon[illegible] the Wind" is tops. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 17:

THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.) and WILD WEST (PRC) — CAPITOL (2,446) (12c-37c). Gross: $5,200. (Average: $5,200)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $14,000)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c). On a two-week moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $5,700)
THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $8,100. (Average: $7,900)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000)

N. Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

000 indicated for a third week. At the Roxy, "Moss Rose," and Olsen and Johnson on the stage, should bring a very favorable $75,000 in a second week. "Fiesta," with Lena Horne, and George Paxton's orchestra in person at the Capitol, figure to provide a healthy $68,000 in a third and final week. "The Hucksters" will bow in tomorrow.

"The Unfaithful," and Vaughn Monroe are continuing as a click combination at the Strand, which looks for about $60,000 in the third week of the run. "Possessed," at the Hollywood, appears on its way to a $16,000 take in a seventh week. "Brute Force" is to make its debut at the Criterion today following "Ivy," which concluded a third and final week with $15,000. Another newcomer today is "They Won't Believe Me" at the Palace, succeeding "Riff Raff." The latter brought about $10,000 in its last four days, three days short of a third week.

A 34th week's gross of $22,000 means that "Best Years of Our Lives" is still a money-making tenant at the Astor. "Duel in the Sun" is still profitable at the Victoria, where $13,500 is indicated for a fifth week.

Meakin to Washington

Hardie Meakin, RKO Theatres division manager, will make his headquarters in Washington at Keith's Theatre, effective immediately, it was disclosed here yesterday. He will report directly to the home office, and will also act as RKO Theatres' Washington liaison.

More Space for Columbia

Columbia has taken two floors in West 52nd St. to be used for its film shipping department. Transfer has already begun. The company has needed additional space for its home office operations for some time.

C & G FILM EFFECTS
723 7th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
CO. 5-9235
Titles ★ Trailers ★ Superimposing ★ Wipes ★ Blowups
Freeze Frames ★ Cutting Rooms

ATA Stand

(Continued from page 1)

expressed the opinion that the proposed merger would be endangered and could prevent it if the ATA persists in its stand.

The MPTOA spokesmen pointed out that its directors were polled on the question of intervention in the N[illegible] York suit last winter and rejected [illegible] overwhelmingly in favor of an *amicus curiae* action, which MPTOA has taken. In addition, they contended that ATA's continued participation in the intervention action now before the Supreme Court is not vital to the action, as it could be continued by the Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, which also are parties to it, should ATA withdraw.

Concurrently, it was learned officially that RKO Theatres and Loew's Theatres, which resigned from ATA because of the intervention action, would not participate in the new merged organization if it continued as a party to that action. Trade observers doubt whether MPTOA would invite the resignations of the two circuits by merging with ATA should the latter refuse to compromise on the issue.

A large part of the ATA membership also belongs to MPTOA but a number of Paramount partners, such as E. V. Richards, R. B. Wilby and R. J. O'Donnell, belong to ATA but not to MPTOA. Gamble's and Si Fabian's theatres, also, are not in the MPTOA fold. Warner Theatres do not belong to either organization.

The meeting to discuss the merger of ATA and MPTOA is scheduled to open at the Hotel Astor here on Friday. The proposed merger has been approved informally by a majority of ATA directors. MPTOA directors have approved the discussion but have not expressed themselves on the merger itself.

The difference between ATA's intervention action and MPTOA's *amicus curiae* action is that the former makes the intervenor a party to the suit, whereas the latter has only an observer's status as "friend of the court."

CEA Sees Delay

(Continued from page 1)

adds, rentals will probably be fixed so as not to exceed that of the previous 12 months, while the duty, the CEA continues, would be a fixed figure permitting continued importation of a very large proportion of American films.

In explanation of its refusal to lodge opposition to the import duty sought, the CEA indicated that British public opinion favors the measure, while the entire House of Commons is obviously in favor of it. The organization expressed willingness to join discussions with Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton.

Another Re-release from Franchise Holders of
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
LINDA DARNELL DICK POWELL
IT HAPPENED TOMORROW

Senate Group Weighs Information Project

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The Senate foreign relations committee today discussed the House-approved Mundt bill, authorizing the State Department's overseas information program, and is expected to complete action on the measure tomorrow.

Senate GOP leaders have said there would not be time to consider the controversial bill on the floor this session.

Library of Congress

(Continued from page 1)

as a central distributing point for Government films, as an information center, and as a depository for commercial and Government films are ended by the Congressional action. Library officials said it was too early for a definite statement about what would happen to the film collection, but indicated it would just deteriorate. The only other Government agency that could physically handle the film collection, the National Archives, does not have funds for the project.

Senate Votes $400,000 for Government Reports Unit

WASHINGTON, July 15.—The Senate today voted to appropriate $400,000 for operation of the Office of Government Reports during the coming year. Part of the funds could be used for the film liaison section.

The new bill now goes to conference with the House which had cut OGR out of the budget completely. OGR originally asked for $600,000, including $22,500 for the film section.

The Senate bill also increases funds allowed by the House for gathering of industry financial statistics and issuing financial reports. Agencies affected would be the Federal Trade Commission and Securities and Exchange Commission.

M-G-M Studios Start Eight New Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, July 15.—Nine new pictures will get under way at the M-G-M Studios in Culver City within the next eight weeks.

They include: "Luxury Liner," Technicolor musical to be produced by Joe Pasternak, with Frances Gifford, Jane Powell, Lauritz Melchior and Marina Koshetz; "Homecoming," a Sidney Franklin production to be directed by Mervyn LeRoy, and starring Clark Gable; "Speak to Me of Love," an Everett Riskin production to star Greer Garson and Walter Pidgeon; "State of the Union," Frank Capra directing and producing (Liberty Films), starring Spencer Tracy and Claudette Colbert; "Easter Parade," with Arthur Freed as producer, and Irving Berlin associated in the production, starring Judy Garland, Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Red Skelton; "The Big City," a Joe Pasternak production, with Leslie Kardos as director, and starring Margaret O'Brien with Karin Booth; "Hills of Home," in Technicolor, with Robert Sisk as producer, and starring Lassie; "Upward to the Stars," with George W. Haight as producer; and "Joan of Lorraine," produced by Walter Wanger (Sierra Pictures), with Victor Fleming director, and Ingrid Bergman as star.

Jolson, Balaban

(Continued from page 1)

camps, a polite name," he said, "for concentration camps."

Urging the audience to make a real sacrifice if necessary to fit their contributions to the huge requirements of the campaign, Jolson admonished them not "to take just an income tax deduction, but deprive yourselves in some measure as those whom you would help have been deprived."

He dedicated one of his best known songs, "Sonny Boy," to the youthful casualty whom he had described, and sang it to the great appreciation of his audience.

Balaban related that the actual estimated relief need is for $215,000,000, although the goal which it is hoped to reach is $170,000,000, which he said will not be enough. To date, $115,000,000 has been pledged nationally, compared with $70,000,000 raised last year.

New York City is lagging, the Paramount president said, with $33,000,000 of its $65,000,000 quota pledged to date. The amusement industry division, he reported, has an unofficial goal of $2,100,000, an actual quota of $1,750,000. Including yesterday's pledges, there has been raised $1,100,000, although corporate contributions and pledges to the non-sectarian division of the campaign, of which Spyros P. Skouras is chairman, have not yet been counted.

Balaban pointed out that with UNRRA aid having been ended on June 30 and the direct assistance of the U. S. Army discontinued, UJA stands as the sole remaining hope of Europe's destitute Jews.

"Despite the ending of outside aid," he said, "the need not only remains, but is intensified. Now it is up to UJA."

Scores of contributors doubled and re-doubled their pledges over last year's contributions and many increased their announced donations several successive times as the meeting progressed. Aiding in tabulating pledges were Robert Weitman, Matthew Fox and Max Cohen.

Seated at the dais in addition to those named were: Albert Warner, Jack Cohn, Spyros Skouras, Ned Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Nate J. Blumberg, Sam Rinzler, Fred Schwartz, William Kline, Manny Sachs, Emil Friedlander and Dave Weinstock, the latter in charge of arrangements for the luncheon.

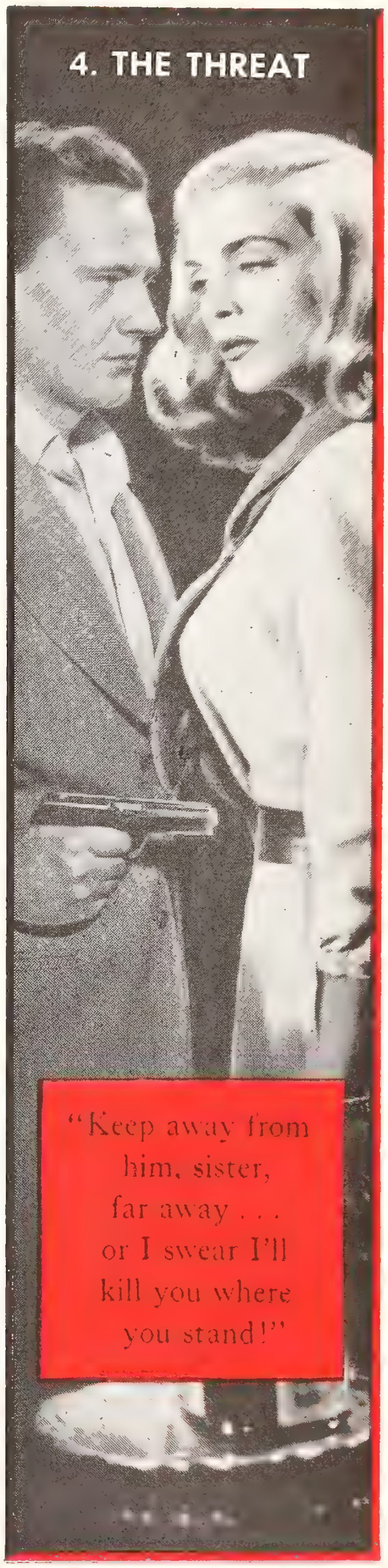
Playing Time

(Continued from page 1)

scoopbond, of which MPEA is a member, is not in favor of granting increased playing time to American films. On the other hand, he pointed out, about 95 per cent of the exhibitor element favors a free market for films. Therefore, although recently the distributor faction voted almost unanimously (MPEA cast the dissenting vote) to instruct the Bond's board to continue the 28 weeks playing time within the Bond regardless of whether the present government regulation remains, a showdown vote between the two elements of the Dutch organization will not sustain the distributor move, Childhouse said.

An increase in playing time for American films, the MPEA executive said, will not mean that the MPEA member companies and independent American distributors in Holland will be able to take out of Holland remittances beyond the $1,830,000 now coming from that country yearly.

Moments of Fury
— from —
"Desert Fury"


4. THE THREAT
"Keep away from him, sister, far away . . . or I swear I'll kill you where you stand!"

HAL WALLIS' Production
In Technicolor . . . From Paramount

Myers Sees Repeal

(*Continued from page 1*)

fied as one involved in communication. As a communications industry, films are entitled to the same consideration as newspapers, he indicated.

In open discussion on his "sliding scale" formula announced several weeks ago at the New Jersey Allied convention, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, said the company has no formula to arrive at exhibitors' expenses in order to determine their eligibility under the plan. All profits after the 40 per cent level are to be divided equally between the distributor and exhibitor, he added. Smith cited a survey in New Haven where the plan was advantageously applied, he said, to 25 theatres, with seven theatre deals under way.

Smith also spoke on the pressure exerted by production cost rises on the box office, and indicated that high negative costs are due to basic wage increases of 57 per cent, talent increases up to 129 per cent and director increases up 134 per cent. Judging from published profits reports, Myers asserted, with production down to about half in the past year, producing companies have not been affected to any degree by mounting costs.

In a discussion of state taxes, Roy Brown, Akron law director, announced that Akron's admission tax law, if any is passed, will definitely not exceed three per cent. John King, ITO attorney, reviewed the history of the Ohio amusement tax repeal and advised exhibitors that in order to forestall legislators in cities where tax is certain of passage, they anticipate legislation by proposing a three per cent tax.

Grainger Sees Risk In Advanced Prices

CEDAR POINT, O., July 15.—The demand for increased box-office prices is a "mistake and will eventually bring a substitute for motion pictures," E. C. Grainger, president of Shea Enterprises, warned in a wire to the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.

Grainger took issue with "constant fault finding with distributors." He suggested that members of the organization "devote more time to housekeeping, publicity, exploitation, public relations and all-round theatre operation, and less to outsmarting distributors."

Excessive costs and prices resulted in motion pictures being substituted for legitimate theatre and vaudeville, Grainger warned.

The convention was also urged by Grainger to consider "the problem of the distributor with a $3,000,000 or $4,000,000 negative cost. The convention should constructively admit that a distributor taking such a large gamble should be entitled to a larger share of box-office money at larger admissions, provided, however, the theatres are not used as a convenience for a distributor's greed, and that the exhibitor also gets his just share of the gamble he takes."

Re-elected without opposition and by acclamation of the Ohio exhibitors were Martin G. Smith as president, to serve his 18th term; C. W. Huss, Jr., Cincinnati, as first vice-president, and Leo Kessel, treasurer. Henry Greenberger of Cleveland was chosen second vice-president, becoming the first to hold that position.

In addition to re-electing the board of directors, the convention added Roy Russell of Millersburg and Roy Wells of Dayton to the board.

Reviews

"Slave Girl"

(*Universal-International*)

A GOOD-NATURED frolic, equipped with Technicolor and George Brent's disarming personality, "Slave Girl" rambles pleasantly through a thin story set in the period of the Barbary pirates and enhanced by a talking camel. The camel makes amusing comments throughout the film in what is allegedly a Brooklyn accent, has his scene of glory, and serves to indicate that the entire plot is sheer farce.

Brent, an American with an eye for pretty women, is sent to Tripoli on a government mission, bearing a ransom of gold to buy the freedom of ten American seamen held captive by the Pasha, played by Albert Dekker. Brent and his bodyguard, Broderick Crawford, soon find themselves enmeshed in typical skullduggery, with Yvonne de Carlo involved as a mystery woman, and Andy Devine raucously cast as one of the ten seamen. Arthur Treacher, as a British captive, adds to the fun.

Before the story ends, Brent loses and recovers the ransom, wins Yvonne's love, and successfully frees the seamen and defeats the Pasha and the Pasha's foe, El Hamid, played by Carl Esmond. Light and productive of numerous chuckles, "Slave Girl" ought to be amusing box-office fare.

Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano produced, and wrote the original screenplay, and Charles Lamont directed.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, for July.

DAVID A. GORDON

"The Trespasser"

(*Republic*)

A STORY about newspaper personnel and murder is told with hardly an error to mar the production scoreboard in "The Trespasser," a fairly interesting film and likely to prove commercially adequate in its proper market groove.

Dale Evans, Warren Douglas, Janet Martin and Douglas Fowley are principally concerned in the piece, which George Blair directed for associate producer William J. O'Sullivan. Jerry Sackheim and Erwin Gelsey did the original, Dorrell and Stuart E. McGowan handled the adaptation and Jerry Gruskin contributed the screenplay.

Miss Martin lands a job in the "morgue-room" of the *Gazette* and in no time discovers the literary editor is selling spurious first editions of important books to the publisher. The editor, William Bakewell, is murdered and his sister, Miss Evans, and Miss Martin are next in line for a fatal "ride." Fowley as feature editor, detective Grant Withers and Douglas as Miss Martin's boss track down the murderer, a crooked book dealer, and bring him and his aides to book in a blazing pistol climax.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 3.

GENE ARNEEL

Set Local, Producers Resume Pact Talks

HOLLYWOOD, July 15.—The major producers' labor committee and Set Decorators Local No. 1421 today opened collective bargaining negotiations on the basis established by mutual agreement after the breakup of similar meetings undertaken last month. At the close of today's session, union representatives were to consult the membership on two preliminary points which came into question. The next meeting has not yet been set.

Ascap May Postpone

(*Continued from page 1*)

ing legal suits involving ASCAP, one in New York and the other in Minneapolis, are deposed of.

The new program which, as originally planned, would mean a general increase in theatre fees, was first disclosed by the late John G. Paine, general manager, but since his death no definitive action in the way of approaching exhibitors has been taken.

A group of Ascap executives returned here from Europe yesterday, including Walter Downey, foreign representative; Richard Murray, head of foreign relations and public relations; Herman Finkelstein, resident counsel, and Rudolph Nissim. Deems Taylor, Ascap president, is still abroad and is expected back in a few weeks.

SRO Negotiating

(*Continued from page 1*)

here after a stay of almost five months in the East.

Selznick said that "nothing would be taken on that was not capable of achieving multi-million dollar grosses." He added that more than 20 independent pictures had already been turned down by SRO.

Neil Agnew, president of SRO, is due here tomorrow to join the conferences with the producers.

Commenting on "Duel in the Sun," Selznick said: "I am not maintaining that 'Duel' will do a gross similar to that achieved on 'Gone With the Wind,' but I do sincerely believe that within the next two years it will become the second highest grosser in the annals of the business."

Rogers-Autry Packaged

MINNEAPOLIS, July 15.—Minnesota Amusement Co. is testing the combination of Roy Rogers and Gene Autry as a first-run attraction at the Gopher. If the package clicks, it will go into all of the circuit's situations. The Gopher heretofore has played both stars solo.

Levine Sells Rights

Joseph E. Levine, President of Discovery Pictures, which is distributing Admiral Richard E. Byrd's picture, "Discovery," has made a deal for the entire world, exclusive of the United States and Canada, with International Optima Corp.

Atkins and Allvine Launch Medallion

T. C. Atkins, formerly in charge o motion pictures for the Army Ai Transport Command, has been electe president of Medallion Productions, a new firm with offices at the Highland Studios, Hollywood, and at 17 E. 48th St. here. Glen Allvine, forme New York public relations chief fo the Motion Picture Association, is vice-president.

Other officers include James J. Petsch, treasurer, and Doro[illegible] B. Hughes, secretary. Hallam Co[illegible] is a director.

Prior to the war, Atkins and Allvine produced a series of pictures for RKO, with Allvine as producer, and Atkins as director. Allvine will remain in New York at present, working on distribution and promotion, while Atkins is in Hollywood working on the first script. A releasing deal for the first picture has been reached, but no commitment has been made for later releases.

Business Seen

(*Continued from page 1*)

tack on present "listlessness on the part of some of us" as an aftermath of the lucrative past few years when grosses soared in spite of a minimum of selling effort.

"While we all recognize that business in general is off a little, theatre business is off a little too much," Reagan said.

Urges 'Effort, Ingenuity'

He urged extra effort, ingenuity and resourcefulness in presenting product to the public and offered Paramount's recent experience in selling "Dear Ruth" as evidence of the effectiveness of applied showmanship.

Here, he said, as the result of added promotional push, including an increase of $200,000 in selling budget, a picture which met with only moderate success in its first engagements with a normal advertising and publicity campaign, is now apparently destined to wind up as one of the "best 10, 12 or 15" top grossers of the season.

The lukewarm returns brought by "Dear Ruth" in San Francisco, Washington and Denver pointed to a national distribution gross of only about "a couple of millions," the same as "Suddenly It's Spring," Reagan reported. However, he added, "the picture merited better boxoffice than the initial grosses indicated."

Developed Radio Campaign

"We were not satisfied," he continued, "and consequently developed a radio campaign greater than ever in past" in subsequent engagements in Kansas City, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Oakland. Spot announcements, chain breaks, special screenings and other devices stimulated peak audience interest, he said.

Reagan ventured that because of this intensified approach an additional $6,000,000 to $8,000,000 will pass through the boxoffices of the country, additional, that is, to the returns of an ordinary picture. "There has been nothing like it since 'Going My Way'," he added.

Reagan concluded his discussion with: "Business can be just as good as our showmanship can make it."

On another subject, Reagan indicated that Paramount is altering its general sales policy, but reported that no conclusions have been reached as yet.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

62. NO. 12 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

Industry, UN Leaders Form US Film Unit

Milliken, Wehrenberg, C. Reagan, Coyne Officers

The American National Film Committee for the United Nations was established yesterday at a luncheon-meeting of industry and UN representatives at the Hotel Astor, here. The meeting was held at the invitation of Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, now abroad, and, upon its formation, the Committee was officially accredited yesterday to the UN by Benjamin Cohen, UN assistant secretary-general and chairman of the UN Film Board.

The following committee officers were elected at the meeting: Chairman, Carl E. Milliken, MPA secretary; Vice-chairmen, C. R. Reagan, of the Film Council of America, and Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Secretary, Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association.

The American committee, like the French and British committees already organized and officially accredited, will work with Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the UN Department of

(*Continued on page 8*)

InternationalVariety Meet April 12-17

R. J. O'Donnell and John H. Harris have set April 12 as the date for the 1948 international convention of the Variety Clubs, to run a week, at the Roney Plaza Hotel in Miami Beach, with the new Miami tent as host. George C. Hoover, of Paramount

(*Continued on page 7*)

New Allied Unit Is Planned for Kansas

DENVER, July 16.—Plans to organize a Kansas unit of Allied States were disclosed here today following a meeting of Rocky Mountain Allied. Exhibitors from Kansas attended the Denver organization's meeting which unanimously adopted a constitution and set of by-laws. The meeting was presided over by John Wolfberg, chairman of the board.

Fishman, Levy Head M.P.F. in New Haven

NEW HAVEN, July 16.—Dr. Jacob Fishman of Fishman Theatres was elected national trustee of the Motion Picture Foundation for the New Haven exchange area, and Herman Levy, general counsel of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, was elected secretary at a meeting at the Hotel Taft here yesterday attended by more than 60 representatives of all branches of the local trade. Harry Lavietes was named alternate for Dr. Fishman.

Carl Goe, Warner branch manager, was named chairman of the general committee, and Lou Brown of Loew's, was named publicity chairman. I. J. Hoffman, Warners New England division manager, presided at the meeting, which was addressed by Louis Novins of the Paramount home office.

Committee members are: Barney Pitkin, Max Salzburg, Ben Simon, Henry Germaine, Arthur Greenfield,

(*Continued on page 8*)

RKO Board Discusses Pathe Newsreel Sale

A lengthy meeting of the RKO board, at which it is reported the subject of the sale of RKO Pathe newsreel to Warner Brothers was discussed, was held here yesterday. Following the meeting, N. Peter Rathvon, president, declined to comment on the matter.

Rathvon, who was scheduled to leave for the Coast today, will remain here until next week.

It was reported that negotiations are still under way on the newsreel deal, with attorneys studying details.

Another Hundred Millions to Britain

Washington, July 16.—Britain has withdrawn another one hundred million dollars of its three billion seven hundred and fifty million dollar U. S. loan, it was announced here today, bringing total withdrawals in the first year of the loan to two billion three hundred million dollars. Britain has only one billion four hundred and fifty million dollars left, which will be used up in about seven to eight months at the present rate of withdrawal. The loan was originally intended to last close to three years.

Col. to Re-release 10 Key Productions

Ten top films which were issued several years ago, will be re-released by Columbia shortly.

The group consists of: "Arizona," Wesley Ruggles' film which stars Jean Arthur; "Texas," which George Marshall directed and Samuel Bischoff produced; "Golden Boy," Rouben Mamoulian production of Clifford Odets' play; "Good Girls Go to Paris," starring Melvyn Douglas and Joan Blondell, directed by Alexander Hall; "More Than a Secretary," which stars Jean Arthur and George Brent, directed by Alfred E. Green; "The Doctor Takes a Wife," directed by Alexander Hall.

Also: "Let Us Live," directed by

(*Continued on page 7*)

Allied-Monogram Sales Quota Is $25,000,000

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 16.—Sales quota for Allied Artists and Monogram in 1947-48 was set at $25,000,000 todav by president Steve Broidy, on the eve of the joint annual national convention of the two companies, to be held here tomorrow through Saturday at the Skirvin Towers Hotel.

"The formation of Allied Artists Productions during the past year," said Broidy, "has assured a vastly wider field for our distribution. Established as a subsidiary to Monogram for the making of films with high production value, the new company gives us entree into many im-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Foreign Product Is In Demand: Springer

A "growing demand" for foreign films in neighborhood theatres is reported by Joseph R. Springer, general manager of Century Circuit here. In consequence, he said, the circuit's Town Theatre, Flushing, L. I., has been placed on a foreign and documentary film policy, this being the second Century house to make the change.

MPTOA Sets Special Meet On Affiliation

Will Weigh ATA Stand On Intervention Tonight

A special meeting of the board of directors of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will be held tonight with every indication that consideration of American Theatre Association's announced refusal to withdraw from the action for intervention in the New York anti-trust suit will be first on the agenda.

Continued refusal of the ATA to alter that stand, which is known to be opposed by a majority of the MPTOA board, could stop the move for affiliation of the two organizations.

Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, and Herman Levy, general counsel, who arrived in New York yesterday to prepare for the meeting on the proposed affliation—which will get under way at the Hotel Astor here tomorrow—declined to comment on the situation in advance of consultations with the MPTOA board members, a majority of whom are ex-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Name Wilby-Kincey In $5,550,000 Suit

CHARLOTTE, July 16.—A suit seeking $5,550,000 on allegations that Wilby-Kincey Service Corp. of this city and other defendants violated the Sherman-Clayton anti-trust law has been instituted in Greenville, S. C., Federal Court by Fred S., Edward C. and James W. Curdts, who operate a theatre in Greenville. The plaintiffs charge discrimination against them in the release and booking of product.

H. F. Kincey, head of the defendant company, was not available for comment since he is away on vacation.

Congressman Calls For 'Clean Films'

WASHINGTON, July 16.—"Clean, wholesome motion pictures can do a great deal of good. Inspiring patriotic and historical pictures can be of great benefit in preserving our national traditions and creating better international understanding," whereas, "the reverse kind of pictures can do a great deal of harm," declared Congressman Gordon L. McDonough as he inserted into the *Congressional*

(*Continued on page 8*)

Personal Mention

HAL ROACH, United Artists producer, will begin a plane tour today from New York of key cities to address district managers' meetings on his "Comedy Carnival." JULES SELTZER, his representative, will accompany him.

•

ARTHUR H. SCHWARTZ, member of the law firm of Schwartz and Frolich, has been named chairman of the executive committee of the New York City Bar Association.

•

KAY HARRISON, managing director of Technicolor, Ltd., and MRS. HARRISON will leave on their return trip to London today aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

•

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, is due back here Saturday from Minneapolis and Milwaukee.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, returned to the home office yesterday from Albany, N. Y.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warner, will return to the home office today from the Midwest.

•

ROBERT BALLANTYNE, head of The Ballantyne Co., Omaha, has left there for a business trip to Chicago and New York.

•

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner Theatres executive, left here yesterday for Cleveland, Akron and Pittsburgh.

•

HAROLD WIRTHWEIN, captain of Paramount's 1947 sales drive, flew to Buffalo from New York yesterday.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subject sales head, is in St. Louis from New York.

•

MAX ROSENBERG of Motion Picture Ventures, will leave here Friday for a Midwest trip.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres executive, is in Boston from New York.

Rank Off to England Today After US Stay

J. Arthur Rank and Mrs. Rank will sail today aboard the *SS Queen Elizabeth* for England, after a two and one-half month stay in the United States.

Rank had breakfast here yesterday with Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio executive vice-president, and Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president, in charge of foreign distribution. During the day he was a guest of David Sarnoff, president of RCA, on a tour of RCA experimental television stations in New Jersey. Last night he was a dinner guest of Robert R. Young of Pathe Industries, Inc., at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

CHARLIE REAGAN described a case history in applied showmanship at some length on Tuesday. He was frank in recounting to reporters Paramount's initial experience on "Dear Ruth"—how a normal advertising and publicity campaign resulted in only moderate success in opening runs; how the budget was stepped up by $200,000; how theatre grosses of that attraction may jump an additional $6,000,000, to $8,000,000 as a consequence, in his opinion.

From all this he then drew his conclusions. They were:

"The right picture properly merchandised and exploited will do business at any time and under any conditions."

There is too much listlessness on the part of some who continue in the dream world of the wartime period.

"Business can be just as good as our showmanship can make it."

■

Old and hackneyed stuff? It is. Reagan has fallen upon no new truths, but neither does he advance any claim of discovery. He merely gives added and required emphasis to a couple of basic merchandising approaches which all experienced hands in this industry know to be fact, although not many practice them in these days of too much bookkeeping and too little showmanship.

■

It has been written before, and there will be undoubted need to write it again, that the free-for-all is over. Studios now have to get by on merit, not war. Distributors now must sell, not just announce availabilities. Exhibitors now cannot throw the doors back and sidestep the deluge. The back-to-work movement is here with all its time-consuming, brain-wearing demands.

The enthusiasm, the excitement and the stimulation which always have been among the sinews of this business need flexing, and they require it very badly indeed.

Some cotton to the belief we have left one era and are embarked in another. If they view the incredible war years as an era, then certainly we have left one. If they mean new standards must be established and, so, another era with them, probably they are wrong.

The old era of hitting the awareness of the exhibitor through channels long and well established for such a primary purpose was all right. It did its job once. It can do the same, or a better job again. Not by half-hearted application and not by sacrifice of potentials through a grubbing method of operational economy.

Audiences have been pre-influenced, of course, by the use of the radio, the magazines and the newspapers. But between the maker of the merchandise and its buyer stands the exhibitor. He is the indispensable. And, because this is so, it matters a great deal how he is conditioned.

The contagion of enthusiasm can translate into a column of figures.

■ ■

Nell Rank, who is Mrs. J. Arthur, accompanied her husband on the long American trip which terminates today when the Ranks return to London. Because she serves as counselor and family adviser, Mrs. Rank has detailed knowledge of many of her husband's activities.

When E. V. Richards, Jr., invited the British film man to take on the Solid South and give out on English pictures, Rank offered his wife several alternatives. One was to accompany him to Louisiana, another to linger several days longer in Hollywood and a third to precede him East. Mrs. Rank chose New Orleans, because, said she:

"Evie Richards must be a very clever lady to run all those cinemas. I should very much like to meet her."

■ ■

Eddie Grainger, head of the Shea circuit, ought to find even greater welcome in distributor offices after his wire to the ITO of Ohio convention at Cedar Point. If an exhibitor has the right to tell other exhibitors, Grainger undoubtedly told 'em. Don't attack distributors merely because they sit on the opposite side, he urged. If a distributor gets involved, or stuck with, a multi-million-dollar negative, the gamble ought to be shared by the theatre man, he also suggested.

But, principally, he advised the Ohioans to stick closer to home by meeting their direct problems—"devote more time to housekeeping, publicity, exploitation, public relations and all-round theatre operation and less to outsmarting distributors."

There, he made his most telling observation.

Newsreel Parade

NEW editions of the newsreels offer a wide variety of subjects, including many sports items, the announcement of the winning Cancer Fund slogan and Britons hailing the betrothal of Princess Elizabeth. The reels and their contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 92—Pr[illegible] Elizabeth and her future husband ch[illegible] Whaling in Japan. Oil boom in Canada. Announce winner of Cancer Fund slogan. Water skiing on Pacific Coast and Florida.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 290—Whaling in Japan. Britain's royal romance. Announce cancer contest winner. Congressmen in baseball game. Water skiing.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 93—Water sports. Cancer Fund slogan winner. Japanese whaling fleet at work. Princess Elizabeth to wed. Republicans and Democrats in baseball contest.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 95—Griswald flies to Greece. New atom smasher. Japanese whalers. Elizabeth's engagement hailed. Australian whip champion. Congressional baseball game.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 56—Cancer Drive winning slogan. Japanese whalers. Congressional baseball game. Bull-whip contest in Australia. Water sports.

Koken Gets New RKO Theatre Division

Edward Sniderman has been named division manager of RKO Theatres in Trenton and New Brunswick by Sol A. Schwartz, general manager.

Lee Koken, manager of RKO Keith's Flushing, succeeds Sniderman as division manager of the RKO Manhattan group that includes the Coliseum, Hamilton, Regent and Alhambra theatres. Sol Sorkin, manager of RKO Keith's, Washington, replaces Koken in Flushing.

Car Is Presented to ITO's Pete Wood

CEDAR POINT, O., July 16.—A large distributor representation attended the annual banquet of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, here, last evening, at the Breakers Hotel, which climaxed a two-day convention. Highlight of the dinner was the presentation of an automobile to P. J. (Pete) Wood, secretary of the organization.

Delay Allied Meeting

CHICAGO, July 16.—National Allied Theatres' convention originally scheduled for Nov. 10-12 at Milwaukee has been postponed until Dec. 1-3, it was announced here by Jack Kirsch, president. Reason for the delay was given by Kirsch as inadequate facilities during November. However, Allied is now promised complete accommodations for December.

Four 'Stallion' Dates

"Red Stallion," Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor production, which will have its world premiere on Aug. 13 at Interstate Circuit's Majestic Theatre in Houston, will open the following day at the Majestic, San Antonio, A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president, announced. Also announced were the Majestic, Dallas, on Aug. 15 and the Worth, Fort Worth, Aug. 16.

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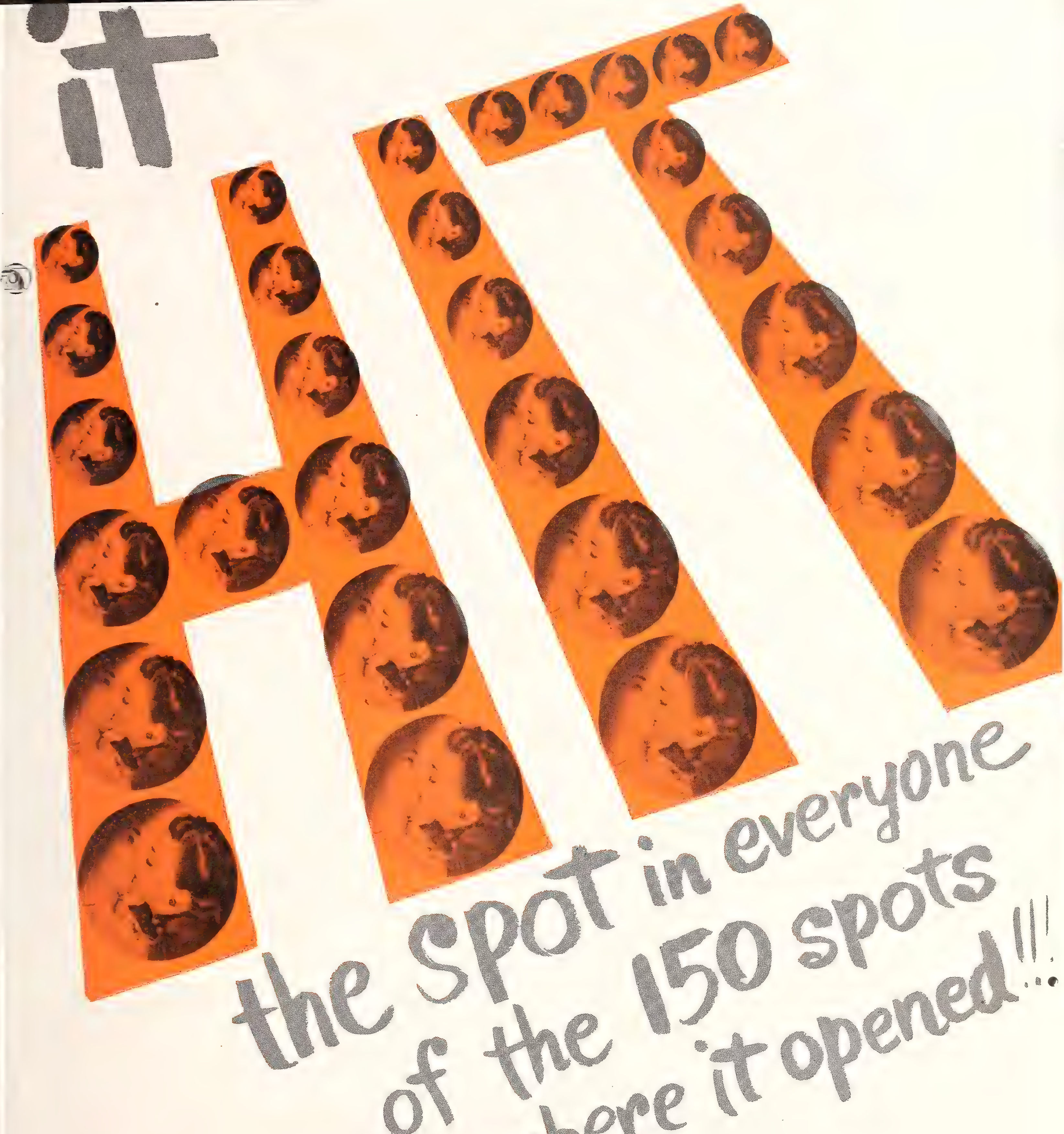
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ARNER BROS. present AND SENSATIONALLY!

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HE UNFAITHFUL"

WITH EVE ARDEN STEVEN GERAY

Directed by VINCENT SHERMAN · Produced by JERRY WALD

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY DAVID GOODIS AND JAMES GUNN • MUSIC BY MAX STEINER

Hats off to the Gove

Congratulations to **GOVERNOR HUNT OF WYOMING** for your showmanship in selecting **REPUBLIC'S "WYOMING"** as the official film of **CHEYENNE'S 51st Annual Frontier Days Celebration.**

WYOMING CHEYENNE · LARAMIE · ROCK SPRINGS · RAWLINS · KEMMERER · SHER
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EXHIBITORS OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN AREA for your showmanship in honoring a great state and a great picture.

83 **big engagements, day and date, with "WYOMING'S" World Premiere at the Fox Inter-Mountain Lincoln, Paramount and Princess Theatres, Cheyenne, July 23-26.**

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• NORTH PLATTE • McCOOK • ALLIANCE • SIDNEY • SCOTTSBLUFF • IMPERIAL

GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES · ALBERT DEKKER
VIRGINIA GREY · MME. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA
Screen Play by Lawrence Hazard and Gerald Geraghty
Associate Producer-Director—JOSEPH KANE

A
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MAR • SALIDA • COLORADO SPRINGS • PUEBLO • GREELEY • DELTA • LEADVILLE

N • ROCKY FORD • DEL NORTE • GRAND LAKE • ALAMOSA • MONTROSE • DURANGO

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Action seems to have been what the public here has been wanting, because "Brute Force" crowded house records in a five-theatre first-run week, and "Perils of Pauline" was big at the two Paramount houses, in an otherwise average sort of week which saw business rebounding from a distinct low registered the week before. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 16:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GUILD (695) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,800. (Average: $5,900)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $7,200)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,600)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I) — STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $6,100)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $15,800)
THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100)
THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.) — EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,800)
THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.) — ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,800)
THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)
DISHONORED LADY (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $2,195. (Average: $4,700)
DISHONORED LADY (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,984. (Average: $14,200)
DISHONORED LADY (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $1,754. (Average: $5,400)
DISHONORED LADY (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $1,812. (Average: $4,700)
FIESTA (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $18,100)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,300)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 5 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,600)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,200)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN to SPEED (PRC) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $28,600)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,500)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC) — UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,200)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,800)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $17,300. (Average: $20,800)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c - 60c - 80c - $1.00). Gross: $31,500. (Average: $26,600)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $16,100)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,200)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $15,500)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $14,900)

PITTSBURGH

"Dear Ruth" opened very strong at Loew's Penn to lead new films here, although the extreme heat is keeping film-goers from downtown houses. "Miracle on 34th Street" also did excellent business in its fifth week at the Senator. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 17:

A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—RITZ (1,100). Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25. Fifth week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices: $3,200)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) — FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,700)
MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox) —SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 5th week on moveover from Harris. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,500)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

DENVER

"Duel in the Sun" at the Esquire is making an eminently strong showing. With this exception, and that of the "Violence" and "High Conquest" dual bill and stage show at the Tabor, business in general is hovering at a seasonal below-average level. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 16-17:

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox) and TOO MANY WINNERS (PRC)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After week each at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
CALCUTTA (Para.) — DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)
CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,500)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — ESQUIRE (742). Advanced admission prices: 74c-$1.20). Day-date with the Paramount. Gross: $29,000.
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — PARAMOUNT (2,200). Advanced prices: 74c-$1.20). Day-date with the Esquire. Gross: $7,000. (Average at regular prices: $9,000)
THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M) and SPECTER OF THE ROSE (Rep.) — BROADWAY (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,000)
IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND AT BAY (Col.) — RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). After week each at the Paramount, Esquire and Aladdin. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)
UNFAITHFUL (WB) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) — DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Esquire. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000)
UNFAITHFUL (WB) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) — WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Denver. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)
VIOLENCE (Mono.) and HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). With a stage show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

OMAHA

Box-office receipts recovered somewhat here during the week. Weather continued mostly fair and considerably warmer. Estimated receipts for week ending July 16-17:

LADIES' MAN (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Jerry Colonna and Bob Chester's orchestra on stage. Gross: $20,100. (Average: $19,800)
MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M) and EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,100. (Average: $8,500)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio) — RKO-BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,900. (Average: $6,600)
THE YEARLING (M-G-M) — PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,600. (Average: $10,600)

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$16,000 for 'Hucksters'

LOS ANGELES, July 16.—M-G-M's "The Hucksters" broke all records for an opening day at the Los Angeles, Egyptian and Wilshire theatres here, the take for the three houses on the first day being close to $15,000 which is several thousand dollars ahead of "Undercurrent," former record holder for the group of Fox West Coast houses, M-G-M discloses.

"The Hucksters" opened yesterday in eight Loew first-run theatres and is scheduled to open today in more than 350 throughout the country, including the Capitol on Broadway. The eight towns are: Indianapolis, Bridgeport, New Haven, Hartford, Waterbury, Norwich, Worcester and Springfield, the last seven being part of the Poli Circuit.

Rank Buys Interest In 2 Dutch Circuits

LONDON, July 16.—J. Arthur Rank has acquired an interest in two Dutch theatre circuits which have been amalgamated. The circuits include 12 theatres and five additional buildings. John Davis, general manager of the Rank interests, will manage the new acquisitions.

WB in Dorsey Disc Show

Warner Brothers has purchased 12 participating units weekly in the Tommy Dorsey "disc-jockey" show on New York station WMCA. The contract, placed through Blain Thompson Agency, is for a period of 26 weeks and calls for two units daily in the promotion of Warner pictures and theatres in the New York area.

$68,000 for 'Brute'

"Brute Force," Mark Hellinger production being distributed by Universal-International, set a new non-holiday opening day record of $10,500 at Loew's Criterion Theatre in New York yesterday and is said to be headed for a new all-time house record of $68,000 for its initial week, against a previous house high of $56,000, according to theatre executives.

Governors Favor Taxation by States

SALT LAKE CITY, July 16.—Theatre taxation as a source of revenue for states rather than the Federal Government with the changeover to be made on a gradual basis was supported by many state governors when the proposal was advanced at the annual Conference of Governors here.

The idea, which met some d[illegible]ition, is to have the Government relinquish its tax hold on liquor, luxuries, gasoline and amusements so that these sources might be tapped by the states. The latter would shift its personal and corporate income revenue to the Government.

The readjustment was recommended in the course of a forum presided over by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York. Gov. Earl Warren of California voiced opposition.

Johnston Sees No Economic Upset

Russia has made a great mistake in banking upon a major economic upset in the United States in the near future, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, told a press conference in Paris, according to cables reaching here from the French capital.

Expressing confidence that the present sixteen-nation conference for the salvation of Europe will be successful, the motion picture executive said he was convinced that the American people and the American Congress were "determined to assist Western Europe in her economic recovery." Widespread fear of a depression in the United States, leading to economic chaos there, is noticeable through most of Europe, Johnston said. He attributed this to constant propaganda by the Soviet Union.

MPA Board Meet July 30

WASHINGTON, July 16.—Eric A. Johnston, now in Europe, reportedly will be in New York on July 30 to attend a board meeting of the Motion Picture Association, of which he is president.

Screen Publicists Leave Studio Group

HOLLYWOOD, July 16.—The Screen Publicists Guild last night announced its withdrawal from the Conference of Studio Unions after a secret vote favoring the action 160 to 115. The SPG has not participated as a unit in the present studio strike, leaving the question of observing picket lines to individual members. The union is still a part of the Painters International and no movement for any other affiliation is said to be under consideration.

Walter Donaldson Coast Rites Today

HOLLYWOOD, July 16.—High Requiem Mass for Walter Donaldson, 54, writer of many song hits, who died here yesterday, will be read tomorrow morning at the Roman Catholic Church in Santa Monica. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y. Donaldson's survivors include two daughters, two sisters and one brother.

4 Months to Answer Denver Theatre Suit

WILMINGTON, July 16.—In the suit of Cinema Amusements Inc., a Colorado corporation, against Loew's, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox, U. S. District Judge Richard S. Rodney here has given the defendants four months from the date of an appropriate order to answer certain inter[illegible]ries by the plaintiffs. The order is expected to be entered within a few days.

Judge Rodney points out that "the defendants contend that the basic controversy was simply as to whether or not the defendants had conspired to deny to the plaintiff's theatre, the Broadway Theatre in Denver, films on 'moveover run' from the Orpheum Theatre in Denver upon the same terms as those enjoyed by the plaintiff's predecessor as lessee of the Broadway Theatre.

"The plaintiff," Judge Rodney continues, "denies that the issue is so narrow and asserts that the issue is whether or not the defendants and others have conspired to monopolize the exhibition of all desirable pictures in the United States by the elimination of independent exhibitors. As a part of this alleged nationwide conspiracy and of the alleged violation of the Sherman Act and Clayton Act, and as evidence of such actions, the plaintiff alleges the particular action against the plaintiff and its theatre in Denver."

Phillips Is Named To DuMont Post

Lawrence Phillips, executive vice-president of USO-Camp Shows, Inc., has been named director of the DuMont Television Network by Dr. Allen B. DuMont, president of DuMont Laboratories.

For many years engaged in manufacturing, Phillips in 1941 was drafted by a group of citizens, headed by Thomas J. Watson, to organize "live" entertainment for the armed forces.

'Wyoming' Naval Opening

A special naval world premiere of Republic's "Wyoming," arranged at the request of Gov. Lester C. Hunt of Wyoming, will be held aboard the battleship *USS Iowa*, en route to Honolulu Wednesday, July 23, simultaneously with the premiere at the Lincoln and Paramount Theatres in Cheyenne, Wyo. The governor will be a member of a party of 20 governors embarking from San Francisco on July 19.

Lohrenz Quits U.A.

Rud Lohrenz, United Artists Midwestern district manager, in Chicago, has resigned to enter exhibition on his own, J. J. Unger, UA general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday. Lohrenz went to the company in 1941, going over from Warner Brothers when Gradwell Sears made the same switch.

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Delay Decisions on Industry Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, July 16.—No decisions on topics to be dealt with in industry-sponsored shorts will be made until Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston returns from abroad, discloses Edward Cheyfitz, Johnston assistant, here conferring with studio executives on the project. Neither will the number of subjects to be made, either in a series sponsored directly by the MPA or in a series sponsored by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, be determined immediately, Cheyfitz said.

"My discussions with studio people are strictly exploratory in nature," Cheyfitz stated, "and although I have found all of them wholeheartedly co-operative, discussions necessarily have not reached finalistic detail." Cheyfitz will return to Washington Monday, and will be in New York Tuesday.

MPTOA Sets Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

pected to arrive here today and this evening.

Both Wehrenberg and Levy said they could not speak for the board and indicated that the problem would be thoroughly canvassed as soon as the board could be convened.

Meanwhile, there was no indication from ATA that it had, or planned to, alter its stand on remaining a party to the intervention action despite the fact that to do so could mean the collapse of the affiliation talks for which directors of both organizations are converging on New York today from all parts of the country.

Both Ted R. Gamble, ATA chairman, and Robert W. Coyne, executive secretary, told MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Tuesday that ATA would not withdraw from the intervention action.

MPTOA rejected the intervention procedure last winter in favor of *amicus curiae* action. Loew's and RKO Theatres, which are members of the MPTOA, withdrew from ATA when it sought to intervene. It has been ascertained that they would withdraw from a merged organization which was identified with the same intervention action.

Indications yesterday were that MPTOA would not change its stand.

Variety Meet Apr. 12

(*Continued from page* 1)

Theatre Enterprises, is chief barker of the tent.

Convention headquarters and all business meetings will be at the Roney Plaza, although several additional hotels immediately alongside of the Roney will be utilized to house the 800 to 900 barkers who are expected to attend. The mileage and per capita trophies, suspended during the war, will be reinstated in 1948 with all tents competing for these honors.

The entire facilities of the Roney Plaza are to be placed at the disposal of the Miami tent, with J. Myer Schine, head of the hotel chain that operates the Roney, closing down the hotel to all outside guests as of April 11. The convention banquet may also be a Humanitarian Award function.

National officers will meet in November to pass upon plans that presently provide for one morning business session each day so that delegates can enjoy the Beach every afternoon.

Allied-Monogram

(*Continued from page* 1)

portant situations in which our product has never before appeared.

"This has been shown in our experience with Roy Del Ruth's 'It Happened on 5th Avenue,'" which had a premiere at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Hollywood, to open on the following day as a single bill for a two-week day-and-date run at the Chinese and three other Los Angeles theatres, with subsequent day-and-date moveovers to two additional local houses. "'Black Gold,' Cinecolor production and the second high-budgeter to be released by Allied Artists, will be given the same handling as the Del Ruth film," said Broidy. Launched by a world premiere in this city tonight, more than 50 bookings in the state's key cities are set within the next two weeks.

"I feel that our quota for 1947-48 has been set at a figure which constitutes a modest estimate of our capabilities," he added.

Monogram-Allied Artists carrying out a policy of diversifying and enlarging their output, enter 1947-48 with the largest group of producers in the history of the studio, Broidy notified the delegates at an informal session prior to the opening of the convention.

Those whose productions will be represented on the Allied slate are: Roy Del Ruth, Maurice and Frank King, Jeffrey Bernerd, Nat W. Finston, Ted Reed, Jack Wrather, James S. Burkett, Hal E. Chester and Edward Nassour. The Monogram producer list, which includes several who will contribute Allied Artists releases, comprises Wrather, Bernerd, Burkett, Chester, Nassour, Jan Grippo, Lindsley Parsons, Walter Mirisch, Barney Gerard, Will Jason, John C. Champion-Blake Edwards, Barney A. Sarecky, Bennett Cohen, Irving Allen and Carl Krueger.

More than 100 delegates are here to attend the convention, headed by a contingent from the home office at the studios in Hollywood, including Broidy, George D. Burrows, Harold Mirisch, Scott R. Dunlap, Jeffrey Bernerd, Howard Stubbins and Mel Hulling.

The delegation from the East includes Edward Morey, Norton V. Ritchey, Morey Goldstein, L. J. Schlaifer, Arthur Greenblatt, Nat Furst, Sol Francis, John S. Harrington and Seymour Borus.

Special guests will include Bob Davis, Griffith Amusement Co., Dallas; L. F. Gran, Standard Theatres, Milwaukee; Ralph Branton, Tri-States Theatres, Des Moines; Len Cox, Fox-Midwest Theatres, Kansas City; Ray Hidgen, Griffith Amusement Co., Dallas; Cliff White, Griffith Amusement, Oklahoma City; Sam Landrum, Jefferson Amusement Co., Dallas; Milton Hosefold, Fox Intermountain Theatres, Denver; Louis Dent, Westland Theatres, Colorado Springs and Jimmy Coston, Al Kvool and Alex Halperin, all of Warner Bros., Chicago.

Columbia

(*Continued from page* 1)

John Brahm; "She Couldn't Take It," B. P. Schulberg production which starred George Raft and Joan Bennett, with Tay Garnett directing; "The Daring Young Man," starring Joe E. Brown, and "Shut My Big Mouth," also Joe E. Brown.

Columbia will prepare special advertising and merchandising material, including pressbooks, lobbies, title cards, stills, one-sheets and three-sheets.

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Production at Same Level as Last Week

HOLLYWOOD, July 16. — With three new films starting and three others finished shooting, the production scoreboard remains the same as the previous week, at 44 pictures before the cameras. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "The Devil Ship," with Richard Lane, Damian Q. Flynn, Tony Caruso and Louise Campbell.
Shooting: "Strawberry Roan," "Mating of Millie," "It Had to Be You."

Eagle-Lion

Started: "The Wild Conquest," with Joan Leslie, James Craig and Jack Oakie.
Shooting: "The Adventures of Casanova."

Goldwyn

Shooting: "That's Life."

M-G-M

Finished: "Cass Timberlane."
Shooting: "Killer McCoy," "Virtuous," "If Winter Comes," "The High Wall," "On an Island with You," "The Kissing Bandit."

Paramount

Shooting: "My Own True Love," "Night Has a Thousand Eyes."

PRC

Started: "Gun Law," with "Lash" Larue, Jennifer Holt.

Republic

Shooting: "Macbeth" (Feldman-Welles), "The Fabulous Texan," "Under Colorado Skies," "The Red Pony."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Roughshod," "Your Red Wagon," "I Remember Mama," "Return of the Bad Men."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Daisy Kenyon," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Foxes of Harrow," "Nightmare Alley," "Green Grass of Wyoming," "Roses Are Red" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life," "Sleep My Love."

Universal-International

Finished: "The Exile."
Shooting: "The Senator Was Indiscreet," "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "Tap Roots" (Wanger-Marshall), "Imagination" (Kanin), "Black Bart, Highwayman."

Warners

Finished: "Ever the Beginning."
Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), "Need for Each Other," "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre," "Silver River."

US Film Unit

(*Continued from page 1*)

Public Information for Films and Visual Education. Introduced by Francis S. Harmon, MPA vice-president, who presided, Benoit-Levy expressed the hope that the committee would provide and receive such assistance as will enable the UN to utilize the medium of motion pictures as effectively as possible in pursuing the objectives of the UN and its affiliated organizations. He also suggested the eventual creation of a permanent secretariat to carry out decisions and recommendations of the committee.

Those who attended yesterday's meeting became recognized as committee members or representatives of committee members by virtue of their attendance. However, an official list of members will be released by the committee shortly, and therein will be included names of those who will have joined meanwhile.

Others Who Attended

In addition to those already mentioned the following attended yesterday's meeting:

Melville Baker, representing Emmet Lavery, Screen Writers Guild J. R. Bingham, president, Educational Film Library Association; Mrs. Patricia Blair, representing Carl H. Milam, executive secretary, American Library Association; Dr. A. J. Brumbaugh, representing George F. Zook, president, American Council on Education; Maurice Chaffee, former president, National University Extension Association, representing the new NUEA president, R. E. Tidwell; M. D. Clofine, chairman, Newsreel Committee; John P. Curtin, representing James R. Grainger, Republic; Clarence Hill, representing Tom Connors, chairman, National Distributors Committee; Hal Hode, representing Jack Cohn, Columbia.

Also: Russell Holman, representing Barney Balaban, Paramount; Don Hyndman, representing Loren Ryder, SMPE; John J. Jenkins, representing Audio-Visual Department, National Education Association; E. J. Barnes, representing National Association of Visual Education Dealers; W. F. Kruse, president, Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association; Donald Nelson, president, SIMPP; John J. O'Connor, representing Nate Blumberg, Universal; George Schaefer, vice-president, Enterprise Pictures; Charles Schlaifer, representing Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Joseph R. Vogel, representing Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Jacob Wilk, representing Harry M. Warner, Warner Brothers; Irving Dollinger, representing Jack Kirsch, president, Allied States Exhibitors; and from the Motion Picture Association John G. McCarthy, Roger Albright and Theodore Smith.

Individuals who have accepted membership on the committee but were unable to be present at the luncheon are: Steve Broidy, Jean Hersholt, Eric Johnston, Arthur Krim, Emmet Lavery, Carl H. Milam and Dr. George F. Zook.

12 Honorary Advisers

Benoit-Levy also announced the names of 12 honorary advisers to the UN Department of Films and Visual Education. These will serve on a consultative basis individually, unlike members of the national committee who will function as a group. The honorary advisers are: Iris Barry, Richard Bach, Bosley Crowther, Edgar Dale, Richard de Rochemont; S. H. Fabian, Johnston, E. M. Krausser, Arthur L. Mayer, Donald Nelson, C. R. Reagan and Dr. Etta Ress.

Summarizing the aims of the committee, Benoit-Levy described the unit as the "link between the executive director of the UN Film Board, the motion picture profession and representatives throughout the U. S." He said the UN's present program calls for 12 documentary films each to be made by a producer in a different country.

Coming Events

Today--Convention of Fabian Theatres Corp., Hotel Astor, New York.

Today through Saturday — Monogram Allied Artists national convention, Oklahoma City.

July 18-19—American Theatres Association meeting with Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America.

July 31-August 2—Warner Brothers sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

August 11-14—Southeastern Theatre Owners Asociation meeting, at Variety Club headquarters, Miami.

Trial of La Cava vs. Pickford on Coast

LOS ANGELES, July 16.—The suit brought by Director Gregory La Cava against Mary Pickford, asking $1,653,750 damages for alleged breach of an oral contract, went on trial today in Superior Court. Plaintiff alleges that Miss Pickford made an oral contract in March, 1945, for him to write, direct and produce a film version of "One Touch of Venus" at $100,000 salary plus a percentage of profits, and that she refused to sign a contract when it was reduced to writing the following month.

Complainant says the defendant stopped work on the picture after 11 days. The trial is expected to run several days.

Seeks 'Clean Films'

(*Continued from page 1*)

Record the full text of the address made recently by Louis B. Mayer, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio vice-president, before the Newspaper Advertising Executives Association at their annual convention in San Francisco.

McDonough said that he had frequently declared that motion pictures is one o fthe greatest mediums of influence on the people, adding: "It is good to know that one of the great leaders in this industry fully realizes the tremendous influence that motion pictures have upon the public mind and character, and the need of the industry to protect the public welfare."

New Haven M.P.F.

(*Continued from page 1*)

Harry Rosenblatt, Daniel Pouzzner, Samuel Zipkin, Matthew Kennedy, Freda Swirsky, Henry Needles, Maurice Bailey, Walter Murphy, James Darby, Harry Shaw, B. E. Hoffman, John Scanlon, Peter Perakos, Leon Jakubson, Morris Jacobson, Russell Barrett and James Bracken.

Dunlap a Vice-president

Election of Orrin E. Dunlap, Jr., as RCA vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity was announced by David Sarnoff, president and chairman of the board. Dunlap became director of advertising-publicity on Jan. 1, 1944, after serving for four years as manager of the department of information.

'Desert Fury' Will Premiere on July 23

World premiere of "Desert Fury," Hal Wallis' Paramount production, will be held at the Utah Theatre in Salt Lake City on July 23. Lizabeth Scott, starred in the film, will leave Hollywood for Salt Lake on Sunday for a four-day participation in civic ceremonies sponsored by Utah in connection with that state's "Covered Wagon Days" celebration.

Following the premiere, Miss Scott will tour five cities in connection with pre-release openings, in San Francisco on July 28-29; Phoenix, July 30; Denver, Aug. 1-2; Oklahoma City, Aug. 4-5, and Tulsa, Aug. 6-7.

Raises for Chicago Theatre Workers

CHICAGO, July 16.—At the first meeting of Local No. B-46, Miscellaneous Theatre Employes Union, held this morning, it was announced that a 10-cent per hour increase had been granted, retroactive to July 1.

Following officers were elected during the meeting: President, Jerry Gaines; vice-president, Wanda Brown; secretary-treasurer, Clarence Jallas.

British Lion Studio Profit Is $244,616

LONDON, July 16.—A net profit of 61,154 pounds ($244,616) for the 10 months ended last March 31 was disclosed here today by British Lion Studio Corp. as it proposed a new stock issue of 15 per cent ordinary shares and another one of six per cent of preference shares.

The company's annual meeting has been set for Aug. 8.

Interstate Shorts Show

An all-shorts show consisting of 11 subjects, with the voice of Warner Bros. cartoon character Bugs Bunny (Mel Blanc) as master of ceremonies and providing continuity for the bill, has been prepared by the Interstate Circuit for showing in all of its theatres throughout the Southwest. The show is called "The New Mirth of a Nation of 1947," and includes the Academy Award winning subjects, "A Boy and His Dog," "Facing Your Danger" and "Cat Concerto," as well as five cartoon comedies and three other shorts.

'Soap-Box Derby' Tieup

A two-dollar benefit premiere, followed by special openings in 135 cities, has been set for the Warner Brothers Technicolor two-reeler, "Soap-Box Derby," the story of the most juvenile sporting event held annually in Akron. In a nationwide tieup embracing the sponsors of the derby (Chevrolet), the *Akron Beacon Journal* and newspapers in 135 other cities where preliminary derbies will be held, "Soap-Box Derby" will have its world premiere July 22 at the Strand, Akron.

M-G-M Novel Award

"Raintree County," first novel by Ross Lockridge, Jr., has won the semi-annual Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer novel award, carrying with it a minimum of $150,000 to the author with a possibility of $250,000 contingent upon sales, plus an additional $25,000 should the book receive the Pulitzer Prize. Motion picture and allied rights go to the film company.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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Loew's Profit For 40 Weeks: $10,904,821

Sales, Operating Gross Listed at $43,371,000

Loew's reports for the 40 weeks ended June 5, a net profit, after taxes and minority interests, of $10,904,821, equivalent to $2.12 per share. This compares with $12,579,245, or $2.47 per share for the corresponding weeks of the previous year.

Gross sales and operating revenues for the 40 weeks are estimated at $43,371,000, compared with $45,754,000 for the same period last year, stated Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew vice-president and treasurer.

Operating profit, including wholly and partly owned subsidiaries, after the subsidiaries' preferred dividends, amounted to $24,166,052, compared with $28,926,576 for the same period of the previous year.

Net profit before Federal taxes amounted to $18,645,414, against the previous period's $22,056,624. Federal taxes paid and minority interests' share came to $7,141,066 and $599,527, respectively, for the period ending last June 5, compared with $8,886,113 and $591,266, respectively, for the same period of a year ago.

Building Requests Flood Washington

Washington, July 17.—Applications for theatre and other amusement construction permits are reaching the Office of the Housing Expediter at the rate of 50 to 60 a day, an official reveals, and there is now a backlog of several hundred applications.

About 30 to 40 per cent of these are for theatre construction.

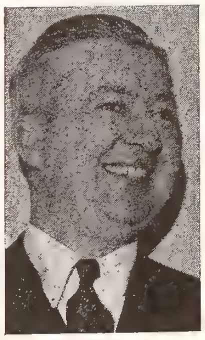
Government officials resumed processing these applications this week, after halting them at the end of June. First announcement of new approvals and disapprovals is expected at the end of next week.

NYC and Industry Meet on Production

New York City's director of labor relations, Edward C. Maguire, and film company representatives conferred at the former's office here yes-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Broidy Sees 'B's' Continuing with Labor Cooperating



Steve Broidy

Oklahoma City, July 17.—As a result of a series of conferences held with labor representatives in Hollywood, continued production of "B" product seems assured on a basis which would make those pictures available to exhibitors at a fair rental and on a production basis which would eliminate the necessity of making them at a loss, Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and Allied Artists disclosed here today in opening the annual convention of both companies at the Skirvin Towers Hotel.

Broidy weeks ago declared that unproportionate labor costs on "B" features threatened their existence.

In Hollywood on Monday, Roy

(*Continued on page 6*)

Rodgers Will Attend MGM Canada Meet

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's annual meeting of its Canadian sales forces, to be held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, Aug. 12-13, will be attended by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager; Edwin W. Aaron, assistant general sales manager; Jay Eisenberg, liaison between sales and legal departments; Irving Helfont, home office assistant on Canadian sales; and M. L. Simons,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Cramblet Named UA District Manager

Ralph Cramblet, United Artists branch manager in Minneapolis, was appointed yesterday Midwestern district manager by J. J. Unger, UA general sales manager. He will operate out of Chicago, covering that area, Indianapolis, Milwaukee and Minneapolis.

Cramblet began with UA 18 years ago as office manager in Chicago. Promoted to salesman, he was transferred to Minneapolis, and was named Minneapolis branch manager in 1934. He retained that post until his present promotion.

MPTOA to Fight ASCAP Rate Boost

The MPTOA board of directors at a special meeting here last night went on record as being "unalterably opposed" to any increase in ASCAP's theatre rates.

The board said it would take an "aggressive" stand against the proposed increase either by "litigation, Congressional action or any other available legal channels."

Rank Sees Video as An Aid to Pictures

A prediction that television would increase motion picture audiences "tremendously" in the next five or six years was voiced yesterday by J. Arthur Rank before he sailed from here on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* for England.

Rank will launch large-screen theatre television in five or six theatres in the West End of London in the fall, provided he can obtain the necessary permits from the British government.

Rank made several deals with the A. N. Rauland Corp., television firm in Chicago in May, he said yesterday, but he has not made any deal with RCA. Rank visited RCA tele-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Copyright Pact Is Sent to the Senate

Washington, July 17.—President Truman today sent to the Senate for ratification the Inter-American Copyright Convention signed here last June.

The report of the State Department delegation, sent along with the convention document, did not include film industry objections on two major points of the convention: Automatic protection by the contracting states

(*Continued on page 6*)

House Coast Labor Probe Opens Aug. 4

Washington, July 17.—A House labor subcommittee will open an investigation of "labor racketeering in the motion picture industry" in Los Angeles on Aug. 4.

Chairman Fred S. Hartley an-

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPTOA-ATA Merger Talks Face Hurdles

Neither Side Shows Signs Of Compromise on Issues

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association directors will square off at the Hotel Astor here today for a discussion of ATA's proposal to become affiliated with the older organization.

Late indications last night were that the affiliation discussions will be confronted with a number of widely divergent viewpoints soon after the meeting opens, any one of which could, at best, forestall a get-together, and, at worst, even prevent a thorough exploration of its possibilities.

Officials of both sides declined to comment yesterday on either the area of difference between the two organi-

(*Continued on page 6*)

ATA Claims 6,300; 6,000 in MPTOA

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association, and Herman Levy, general counsel of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, said here yesterday that the proposed merger of the two groups, if effected, would result in a consolidated organization comprising between 8,000 and 9,000 theatre members.

Coyne claimed 6,300 member the-

(*Continued on page 6*)

SAG, 2 Producer Groups Sign Pact

Hollywood, July 17.—Minimum daily payment for players is increased from $35 to $55, free-lance players from $115 to $175 per week, under terms of a one-year contract between Screen Actors Guild, Association of Motion Picture Producers and the So-

(*Continued on page 4*)

3 Reviews Today

"The Marauders," "Second Chance" and "Merton of the Movies" are reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are reported on page 5.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR B. KRIM, Eagle-Lion head, will leave here for the Coast today by plane.

•

SYDNEY LAIRD, general manager of Al-Dun Amusement Co., West Point, Ga., and MRS. LAIRD celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary in New York. They were joined by L. J. DUNCAN, Al-Dun president, and MRS. DUNCAN.

•

LOUIS H. HARRISON, president of Goodman and Harrison Theatres, Chicago, has been elected president of District Grand Lodge No. 6, B'nai B'rith.

•

KENNNETH MACKENNA of M-G-M's story department, arrived here yesterday by plane from England and will leave for the Coast tomorrow.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount advertising-publicity director, will fly to Mexico, Mo., today to spend the weekend with his mother.

•

FRANK LA GRANDE, superintendent of Paramount's Long Island laboratory, left for England yesterday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

MYRON SATTLER, Paramount's New York branch manager, will leave here today for a two-week vacation in Westbrook, Conn.

•

EVERETT C. CALLOW, advertising-publicity head in the Philadelphia zone for Warner Theatres, was in town yesterday.

•

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE international president, is due back here on the *SS Mauretania* from London on July 29.

•

SAM MARX, M-G-M producer, will leave for Hollywood today after vacationing here and at Cape Cod, Mass.

•

GEORGE GENERALIS, 20th Century-Fox trade paper contact, will leave New York today for a Canada vacation.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew's assistant treasurer, will leave here today for a vacation at Swampscott, Mass.

•

FRANK BIBAS, general manager of Casanave-Artlee Pictures, New York, is on a Midwestern trip.

•

FREDERIC ULLMAN, JR., RKO Pathe News president, is due back here Sunday from the Coast.

•

ED HINCHY, Warner play-date department head, left here yesterday for Pittsburgh.

•

DOROTHY DAY, M-G-M magazine contact, left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

CLAUDE LEE, Paramount public relations director, is vacationing in the South.

E-K Completes Tests Of New Safety Film

Eastman Kodak is understood to have completed a series of tests of a new safety print, made of completely non-inflammable raw stock. Tests were held in houses in hot and cold and dry and damp areas to chart reactions, and it is said that shrinkage remained constant under all conditions, and stood up well under the wear and tear to which it was subjected in playing the 45 dates considered the average life of a film.

MPEA Is Preparing For 16mm. Markets

A survey of 16mm. marketing potentialities, now under way in all countries in which the Motion Picture Export Association operates, augurs an early decision on the start of narrow-gauge release operations in qualified territories, the MPEA declared here yesterday.

Five-page questionnaires, calling for an analysis of the 16mm. market, recently went out to all MPEA managers and representatives. On the completion of these surveys, it is expected that immediate action will be taken by MPEA to inaugurate 16mm. distribution in countries with sufficient equipment and outlet.

Air Cargo Group Opposes New Rates

WASHINGTON, July 17.—The Airfreight Forwarder Association revealed it will ask the Civil Aeronautics Board to suspend the new air cargo rate tariffs filed early this week by 19 airlines.

The association contends they actually increase the cost of plane-load shipments. The new rates were to have taken effect Aug. 1, and it was expected that CAB approval would be forthcoming without any hearings. Now hearings will probably be ordered.

Golf Tourney Ends Fabian Convention

The three-day convention of city, district and theatre managers of the Fabian circuit came to a close with a golf tournament at the Preakness Hills Country Club, Wayne County, N. J., yesterday. Si Fabian, president, and Sam Rosen, vice-president of the organization, were hosts to about 300. including many distributors and exhibitors.

4,000 Trailers to Filmack

CHICAGO, July 17.—Filmack Trailer Corp. announced here today purchase of the entire library of prevue trailer negatives from Alexander Prevue Co. Irving Mack, Filmack head, said that the purchase consisted of nearly 4,000 negatives dating from 1930.

Rules for Companies On Percentage Suits

LOS ANGELES, July 17.—Six distributors won motions and counter-motions in Phoenix, before U. S. Judge Ling, in pending percentage and copyright cases brought against the Louis F. Long circuit.

The motion for an inspection of theatre records was granted, while five counter-motions made by the circuit, including one to limit the inspection, were denied. The exhibitor sought to strike portions of the complaints, for a bill of particulars. The judge denied the defendant's request to confine an inspection of records to percentage engagements only. The order grants an inspection prior to the filing of the defendant's answers and directs the defendant to produce daily box-office reports, ledgers, bank records, ticket invoices, tax returns and other documents for six years prior to the commencement of the actions.

Plaintiffs are Columbia, RKO Radio, Warner Brothers, Loew's, Paramount and 20th Century-Fox.

London Court Rules MGM Guilty of Libel

LONDON, July 17.—The jury trial of M-G-M on charges of defamation brought by British Broadcasting Corp. film critic Mrs. Arbuthnot Arnot-Robertson ended here today with a verdict of guilty. The company was ordered to pay Mrs. Arnot-Robertson damages, $4,000 for libel and $2,000 for slander.

The jury found that a letter criticizing Mrs. Arnot-Robertson as a critic which the company wrote to BBC imputed that Mrs. Arnot-Robertson was incompetent as a film critic and broadcast reviewer.

Johnston To Report On Europe July 30

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will report to the board on the European market at an MPA board meeting here on July 30. Johnston is now on the Continent about to bring to a close his tour of foreign capitals. The purpose of his trip was to reduce or eliminate numerous restrictions against U. S. product abroad.

Three Join Korda as Independent Team

Alexander Korda's London Film Productions has acquired as an independent producing team Anatole De Grunwald, Terrence Rattigan and Anthony Asquith, the Korda office here reports. Their first picture is to be a filmization of Rattigan's London stage play, "The Winslow Boy," which is to be directed by Asquith.

F-C Signs Eddy Agency

The Arthur Eddy Publicity Agency will represent Film Classics in Hollywood, according to Al Zimbalist, F-C advertising-publicity director. Eddy will coordinate national publicity for the company's new product and serve in both an active and consultant capacity.

Mundt Bill Passed By Senate Group

WASHINGTON, July 17.—The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved the House-passed Mundt Bill, authorizing the State Department's foreign information program, but tacked on a $100,000 Congressional inquiry into the program to determine whether it is a proper governmental function or should be carried on by private industry.

The investigation by a 10-man joint Congressional committee would replace a provision in the House version calling for a commission of 11 civilians, including a film representative, to keep a permanent check on the program.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
JAMES MASON
'ODD MAN OUT'
IN PERSON
HARRY BABBITT
CIRO RIMAC and his Band
Extra!
SUE RYAN
Plus Others

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
35TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE" in TECHNICOLOR
Starring BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM" ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

Peggy CUMMINS - Victor MATURE
Ethel BARRYMORE
"MOSS ROSE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
PLUS ON STAGE—
OLSEN and JOHNSON
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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IT'S A BOXOFFICE WONDER!

I wonder who's kissing her now

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"
TECHNICOLOR
starring JUNE HAVER
MARK STEVENS with
MARTHA STEWART • REGINALD
GARDINER • Lenore Aubert
William Frawley • Gene
Nelson • Truman Bradley
George Cleveland • Directed by
LLOYD BACON • Produced by
GEORGE JESSEL • Original
Screen Play by Lewis R. Foster
Additional Dialogue by
Marion Turk • Dances Staged
by Hermes Pan

Color by Technicolor!

A NEW ALL-TIME 20TH CENTURY-FOX RECORD FOR ANY THEATRE, ANY WEEK IN THE SHOW-BUSINESS HISTORY OF CHICAGO!

And in Detroit: THE BIGGEST OPENING IN 20TH HISTORY AT THE HUGE FOX!

The Whole Industry is Cheering the Wonderful Boxoffice Hits from Wonderful 20th CENTURY-FOX

SAG, Producers Sign

(Continued from page 1)

ciety of Independent Motion Picture Producers, a joint announcement disclosed. The pact agreed upon by the negotiators now goes to the principal producing companies involved, and SAG membership, for approval. The Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, with which the SAG committee will continue meetings, is not included in this contract.

Other increases include: contract players, experienced, from $60 and $75 to $120 weekly if under 30 years of age; to $160 if 30 or over; contract players, beginners, $60 weekly for first six months, $75 thereafter, with no player remaining in this classification more than 18 months; stunt men from $35 to $55 daily; $200 to $300 weekly.

All new minimums are retroactive to May 15th, except for contract players signed before that date, in which case it would take effect on the next option period.

SAG and producers will continue negotiations on points on which agreement has not been reached, with the purpose of signing a complete new contract not later than Aug. 1 next year, expiration date of the interim pact.

SAG, IMPPA to Meet Today On Low-Budget Labor Plan

HOLLYWOOD, July 17.—Negotiators for the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association will meet tomorrow with a Screen Actors Guild committee to learn the union's attitude toward the IMPAA proposal for establishing a separate category embracing minor budget films with respect to labor and talent costs. The proposal was made to all film guilds and unions.

The IMPPA plan, it is understood, pertains to all pictures budgeted within the "C" group as defined by the Production Code Administration in charging producers for its service. The "C" category includes pictures produced for less than $100,000.

Chicago Janitors Get Offer of 15¢ Raise

CHICAGO, July 17.—Hourly wage increases of 15 cents for men and 8 cents for women have been offered to janitors employed in Loop offices and theatre buildings by the Building Managers Association, Thomas Burke, president of the AFL Chicago office, theatre and amusement building janitors' union, announced here.

If proposed increases are accepted janitors' wages will be $1.08 hourly and janitresses' wages 88 cents hourly. The increase would be retroactive to June 30, expiration date of the old contract. Union members are scheduled to meet Sunday to vote on the proposal.

AMPP Board Elects Boren to Labor Post

LOS ANGELES, July 17.—Charles E. Boren has been elected vice-president in charge of labor relations of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, a newly-created post. Boren was appointed labor relations manager four months ago.

The remainder of the meeting of the board of directors of the AMPP was devoted to a report from its legal committee on the Taft-Hartley's application to studio employment.

Reviews

"The Marauders"

(United Artists-Hopalong Cassidy)

Hollywood, July 17

FINDING a change of story pace in any one of the herd of Western films that gallop out of Hollywood each year is an experience as startling as coming upon one of those flying saucers in your own backyard. Such a pleasurable surprise awaits audiences in this latest of the Hopalong Cassidy series, with the credit to be divided four ways, among William Boyd, his producer, Lewis J. Rachmil, George Archainbaud, the director, and the author of the original screenpplay, Charles Belden.

It is prime entertainment on the bill of any theatre outside the bracket of the extra deluxe house, as well as a topper for those devoted to exclusive showing of Westerns.

Blending border-days gallantry and gunplay, Bill Boyd is his usual personable and confidently heroic self as the perennial Hopalong. As his saddle pals, Andy Clyde's rustic clowning as California, and Rand Brooks as the lovelorn, but fearless Lucky, keep the pace on par with their past performances.

A new leading lady pretties up the picture perfectly, and has some good dramatic and romantic scenes to boot. She is Dorinda Clifton. Ian Wolfe, as a hypocritically pious heavy, Mary Newton, as the bereft mother and mystery person of the yarn, and Harry Cording, Dick Bailey and Earle Hodgins add extra shine to this pleasing film, as support players.

An old deserted church in a ghost town, depopulated by mysterious killings and fear, is the setting for most of the action, after Hopalong and his two pals take shelter in it from a storm. A gang of marauders, who try to tear down the church for no apparent reason, get trigger happy when Hopalong gives them the bum's rush. When they lay siege to the church, in which Hopalong, his two pistoleers and a mother and daughter are barricaded, the shooting begins. Hopalong manages to escape to a nearby town and partially learn why the rickety old church is such a much sought prize by the gunmen gang. Later events reveal that oil, secretly discovered under it, is the reason the marauders fight bloodily for its possession, until a posse, summoned by Hopalong, puts an end to the gang and their quest.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W.J.McG.

"Second Chance"

(Sol M. Wurtzel—20th Century-Fox)

SHY though it may be on names of really strong marquee power, "Second Chance," a brisk, glossy recounting of the activities of a band of "high-class" gem thieves, should provide the customers with an enjoyable hour of vicarious adventure. Arnold Belgard converted the original story by Louis Breslow and John Patrick and director James S. Tinling did a workmanlike job of guiding the players, topped by Kent Taylor, Louise Currie, Dennis Hoey and Larry Blake, through their historic paces. Producer Sol M. Wurtzel's cameras were focused for the most part on bright, fashionable interior settings and "fancy neighborhood" exteriors as the story of the operations of the suave crooks unfolds.

Taylor and Miss Currie, a couple of "very respectable" people in the eyes of all but police detective Blake, strike up a romantic and jewel-robbing partnership. As they fall deeper in love, each develops, paradoxically, a stronger anticipation of a "double-cross" from the other until they more or less mutually decide to quit the racket and lead respectable lives. But it's too late; they have become too deeply involved in a final "big job" planned by the masterminds of their syndicate. However, Miss Currie, who was to be "kidnapped" by her accomplices while modeling some rare jewelry, decides to tip off the police so as to open the way for a straight life for herself and Taylor. He, however, is captured along with the others as a result, and she promises to wait for him while he serves a jail term. Others in the cast include Ann Doran, John Eldredge, Paul Guilfoyle, William Newell and Betty Compson. Howard Sheehan was associate producer.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. For September release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Merton of the Movies"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, July 17

THE personal popularity of Red Skelton and the yesteryear fame of the stageplay used this time for the screen purposes of the star who was last seen in "The Show-Off" appear to be the determinants of this comedy's box-office destiny. This Skelton role is a good deal more appropriate to the star's specialized talent for humorous entertainment than the one he was given in "The Show-Off," and the subject allows for more latitude in the direction of slapstick. With Virginia O'Brien admirably cast opposite him, and with such players as Leon Ames, Alan Mowbray, Douglas Fowley and Hugo Haas in support, the production bids steadily and exclusively for laughs.

Produced by Albert Lewis and directed by Robert Alton, from a script by George Wells and Lou Breslow, based on the stageplay and the novel of the same title, the story opens in 1915 with Skelton, an usher in a mid-country theatre, heading for Hollywood to crash the movies on the strength of a correspondence school diploma. After various amusing incidents, he is befriended by Miss O'Brien, a stunt girl who becomes a star, and is given a principal role in a picture which he believes to be a serious drama, but which the producer is making as a farce. The heartbreak which was a high point in the original version is minimized here and the film ends, after a slapstick climax, in a convenient appeasement of all parties.

Running time, 82 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

NYC, Industry Meet

(Continued from page 1)

terday to blueprint a study of New York's facilities as a film center, to which Mayor William O'Dwyer has assigned Maguire with a view toward bringing part of the Hollywood film industry here.

Company representatives at the meeting include Tom Mead, Universal-International; Leslie Thompson, RKO Radio; Frank Phelps, Warners; William D. Kelly and Edward C. Dowden, M-G-M, and representatives of United Artists and 20th Century-Fox.

It was decided at the meeting that Maguire will submit to the companies a recapitulation of the various city departmental regulations which apply to film production here, together with a city legal department analysis of the regulations. The companies will then point out to Maguire those regulations which tend to "hamstring" production activity. When the city receives the companies' replies an endeavor will be made to improve regulations for the benefit of producers.

Maguire will meet with the film men again in about two weeks, at which time, it is expected, the city's regulation recapitulation will be ready. Meanwhile, Maguire will continue a physical survey of production facilities, and, in that connection, today will accompany Thompson, and perhaps Mayor O'Dwyer, on a tour of RKO Pathe's new Park Avenue studio here.

Chadwick Asks Fight On World Film Cartel

HOLLYWOOD, July 17.—Asserting that "we are all aware of agreements made between major producers and distributors and British interests, and why they were made," I. E. Chadwick, president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, called upon independents to "make sure that no such monopolistic cartel as our Government forbids in this country gets into operation internationally."

Chadwick made his remarks following a talk by Harry Brandt, president of the New York Independent Theatre Owners Association, at a luncheon-meeting in which he declared that American exhibitors and audiences "prefer American films to British." Hitting the quality of recent product, Brandt criticized "star control," giving stars a status in which they virtually produce pictures, as the "chief factor in exhibition problems today."

Miss Day to Astaire

Charles L. Casanave, vice-president and general manager of Fred Astaire Dance Studios, has appointed Barbara Day as director of publicity. She leaves her advertising-publicity post with United World Films to assume her duties immediately. Miss Day is the daughter of E. L. McEvoy, short subject sales manager of Universal.

Loew Tax Refund Suit

Loew-M-G-M has filed suit in U. S. District Court, here, against Collector of Internal Revenue James W. Johnson for a refund of $2,666 in taxes paid in 1943. The amount, Loew's claims, results from the improper identification by the collector as wages of monies paid to individuals for furnishing motor transportation.

Hollywood

July 17

REPUBLIC closed books on the first six months of production for 947 with 13 features and two serials ompleted during the January-June eriod. The studio's production chief, llen Wilson, announces that 17 ad-[illegible] features and one serial are [illegible]ed to go before the cameras uring the next six months.

•

Allied Artists producer Jeffrey ernerd has purchased "There'll ome a Time," original screen story y Robert Sanford. Bernerd is neotiating for Anthony Quinn and atherine DeMille, who were eamed in his recently completed Black Gold," for lead roles. . . . lanned as another Monogram reease in the Bowery Boys series will e "Crime Crushers," just bought y Jan Grippo. . . . Louis B. Mayer as the principal speaker at the pening session of the convention f the Newspaper Advertising Executives Association which began uly 7 in San Francisco. "The Moion Picture and the World Today" as his topic.

•

Robert Rosen has checked into Coumbia to write and direct the screen ersion of the Pulitzer Prize novel, "All he King's Men." He recently finshed a directorial chore on "Body and oul."

•

At Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Frank apra is finishing preparations for ilming "State of the Union." Production of the Broadway stage play is cheduled for August 15, with Spencer racy and Claudette Colbert in the tellar roles. . . . Replacing Charles idor, William Castle renews his olumbia contract as director of that tudio's "The Crime Doctor's Gamle," which will star Warner Baxter. . . Having directed two of the most mportant pictures on M-G-M's reease roster for the coming season, Green Dolphin Street" and "If Winer Comes," Victor Saville departs for European vacation trip, of three eeks duration, later this month.

•

British actor Sir Cedric Hardwicke as been set for a top role in Paranount's Technicolor musical, "A onnecticut Yanke," which Tay Garett will direct and Robert Fellows roduce. . . . Seymour Nebenzal has igned Maria Montez to a three-year eal, calling for one picture a year. Iiss Montez' contract with Universalnternational allows her outside film oles. . . . Gail Russell will be Edard G. Robinson's lead in Paranount's "Night Has a Thousand Eyes." She replaced Joan Caulfield hose conflicting starring role with lan Ladd in "The Long Grey Line" orced her to withdraw. . . . Veteran stage-screen actor H. B. Warner has joined the cast of M-G-M's "The High Wall," new Robert Taylor starring vehicle.

•

A top role has been assigned to Jay C. Flippen in "Your Red Wagon," which John Houseman is producing and Nicholas Ray directing for RKO Radio.

W. J. McG.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CLEVELAND

What with a circus, baseball games and fine weather, some theatres are not doing so well here. Interest, however, was shown in "Perils of Pauline" drawing an estimated $18,000 at Loew's State and Freddy Martin's stage show at the RKO Palace where, with "A Likely Story," the take looks like $35,000. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 15-16:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular prices: $11,000)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 2nd week. On a moveover. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500)
IVAN THE TERRIBLE (Artkino)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)
A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). Stage: Freddie Martin Band and vaudeville. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $30,000)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 4th week, and 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,250)
MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)
UNFAITHFUL (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $17,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

Except in the case of "Duel in the Sun," grosses clung to their below average levels of recent weeks as hot, humid weather lured business to beaches and resorts. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 17:

BELLS OF SAN ANGELO (Rep.) and TWILIGHT ON THE RIO GRANDE (Rep.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LYRIC (1,100). (Advanced admission prices: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: at regular prices: $5,600)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,500)
FIESTA (M-G-M) — STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,000)
MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—(1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week (moveover from Radio City). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,300)
TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—RKO Pan (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,500)

KANSAS CITY

With temperatures here in the 90's, the public has been flocking to parks days and evenings. Midget car races have been drawing record crowds. First-run attendance, however, seemed improved. "Dear Ruth" at the Paramount is doing business well up to the best level of that of a year or so ago, and will be held for a third week. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 15-18:

BORN TO SPEED (PRC) and THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000)
FRAMED (Col.) and MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)
IVY (U-I) — FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1.750)
IVY (U-I) — TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,000)
IVY (U-I) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)
UNFAITHFUL (WB) and SEVEN WERE SAVED (Para.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

First-run business is uneven here this week, but "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" is doing well at the Indiana, and "It Happened on Fifth Avenue" is above average at the Circle. Frequent showers and thunderstorms are an adverse factor. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 15-16:

CHEYENNE (WB) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $6,500)
IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists) and THE GUILTY (Mono.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox)—INDIANA (3.200) (40c-60c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,200)
LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,700)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $5,700. (Average: $6,700)

BOSTON

Despite the continued heat wave, grosses showed signs of rallying after three uneven weeks. "Ivy" at the Memorial and "The Perils of Pauline" at the Metropolitan held up well in their second weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 16:

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) and KING OF WILD HORSES (Col.)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $23,400)
GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue) and CYNTHIA (M-G-M) — ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000).
GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue) and CYNTHIA (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)
IVY (U-I) and TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000). (Average: $27,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $26,000)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,500)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

10 Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Four of 10 films reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I; they are: "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," 20th Century-Fox; "The Roosevelt Story," Tola Productions; "Rustlers of Devil's Canyon," Republic, and "Stranger from Ponca City," Columbia. Placed in Class A-II were: "Crossfire," RKO Radio; "Hungry Hill," Universal-International, and "The Trespasser," Republic.

A Class B rating was given Columbia's "Down to Earth," Eagle-Lion's "Repeat Performance," and Superfilm's Italian import, "The King's Jester."

faces
that
fill
theatres
"Lured"
by Hunt Stromberg for UA

South America, rakes it away! In Chile and Argentina

"CARNEGIE HALL"

has topped any UA picture ever! Available now for general release in August!

Released thru UA

'B's' Continuing

(*Continued from page 1*)

Brewer, IATSE international representative, said a committee will be appointed to study the possibilities of a plan devised by I. E. Chadwick, president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, by which union labor and guild talent could work on low-budget films for corresponding wage scales under a "separate category."

Broidy cited "the sincere cooperation" of the labor representatives and at the convention announced their willingness to appoint a committee to investigate pertinent angles in connection with "B" production. The Monogram head stated that "the new order" would make it possible for smaller producing units to be able to schedule, on an efficient basis, a year's product in advance, with the full knowledge that their budgets would be adhered to against unpredictable increases.

"The willingness of both sides to see all points of view augurs well for future labor relations within the industry," stated Broidy. "In making our 'B' pictures we were confronted with a reduction in income due to shortened first run engagements throughout the country. Also, exhibitors had reached the peak in rentals which they were willing to pay for this product.

"If this essential type of entertainment was to survive, this could only be accomplished by a reduction in production costs. Through the willing cooperation of studio labor executives, Monogram will be able to resume production in the near future. The present negotiations do not in any manner affect the Allied Artists' program of 'A' pictures," he said.

Broidy also announced to delegates that producer-director Roy Del Ruth will film the career of Babe Ruth for Allied Artists.

Ruth will receive $150,000 for permission to screen his story, plus a percentage of profits from the film, estimated to bring him an additional $250,000. Bob Considine has been signed to prepare the screenplay. The studio also obtained screen rights to Considine's forthcoming book on Babe Ruth, to be published next year. Budget for the film has been set at $1,500,000.

House Labor Probe

(*Continued from page 1*)

nounced today that the special subcommittee which has been investigating James C. Petrillo would extend its activities to cover the entire Hollywood labor picture.

Hartley said the West Coast hearings would center on the studio jurisdictional strike and James C. Petrillo's AFM agreement with the studios banning the use of film sound tracks by the television industry.

Committee counsel Irving McCann, who will leave for the West Coast on Saturday, has prepared subpoenas for some 60 witnesses, and it is estimated the hearings will last about two weeks. The subcommittee, headed by Rep. Kearns, was out on the Coast last spring for three days in connection with the Petrillo investigation.

Hartley said the Hollywood investigation is "sort of an offshoot" of the Petrillo probe. "There were a number of complaints when the subcommittee was in Los Angeles," he said, "but Kearns had neither the time or the authority to deal with them at that time."

Levies That Make A Levy Popular

They're telling this one in the MPTOA meeting rooms at the Astor:

Morris Loewenstein, head of the MPTOA of Oklahoma, in a letter to the Confederacy of Southern Associations, reported that his organization had "not approved CSA's seat levy but did approve MPTOA's amicus curiae proceedings."

Mack Jackson, Alabama exhibitor, who heard the letter read, remarked: "What Morris is trying to say is that the Oklahoma exhibitors like MPTOA's *Herman* Levy better than they like CSA's *seat* levy."

Rank Sees Video Aid

(*Continued from page 1*)

vision stations in New Jersey on Wednesday as guest of RCA president David Sarnoff.

Rank said that he will make 30 pictures in 1948. Asked about the capacity of the British industry, he replied that all British studios can make about 60 pictures a year. Pointing to the lack of building materials, Rank remarked: "We have a lot of flour mills to build, too. There's no use trying to entertain people on an empty stomach." Rank, in addition to his film enterprises, owns flour mills in England and in the U. S.

Asked what he had accomplished in his two-and-one-half month trip here and in Canada, Rank replied that he had achieved more playing time here with major circuits for his films, as well as an opportunity to present his pictures in better-grade houses.

Copyright Pact

(*Continued from page 1*)

of a work copyrighted in one contracting state; and the right of the author to oppose modification of his work—the "moral right of the author" clause.

It is expected that the industry will take to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee its fight against the two objectionable articles. Committee officials indicated, however, that since their schedule is crowded at present, hearings on the convention would doubtless be put over to the next session of Congress.

The single objection included in the report on the part of consultants, among whom were representatives from the film industry, was to the articles dealing with the right of the copyright holder to "present, recite, exhibit or perform publicly" any of his works.

To 'Wyoming' Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, July 17.—William Elliott and Vera Ralston, stars of Republic's "Wyoming," will arrive in Denver on Saturday, from here, en route to Cheyenne, Wyoming, to attend the Frontier Days celebration in connection with the world premiere of that production. Foy Willing and the Riders of the Purple Sage are also making the trip.

MPTOA-ATA

(*Continued from page 1*)

zations or the chances of an affiliation being concluded. However, there were in evidence unofficial pessimistic overtones, not peculiar to either camp.

One of the stumbling blocks to completion of the proposed merger, and it is known to be only one of several, is the continued insistence of ATA upon remaining a party to the action for intervention in the industry anti-trust suit now before the Supreme Court. MPTOA rejected that course last winter and has not changed its mind since.

Intervention was a move that not only cost ATA the membership of Loew's and RKO theatres, but which also forced it to about-face on its charter resolve to have no part in trade practice activities.

While a compromise is possible on the issue, technically, at least, it is doubtful whether Loew's and RKO, which are MPTOA members, would have any part of the new organization, even on the compromise basis.

However, even if the intervention issue were to be resolved, which did not seem likely as of last night, equally deep-rooted problems still will remain for the conferees to dispose of when they gather around the meeting able today.

Forecast: Continued storms with heavy overcast throughout the day and possibly continuing into tomorrow.

In a pleasanter vein, however, MPTOA will host the visiting delegates and their wives at a cocktail party at the Astor this evening and dinner at the Diamond Horseshoe later.

ATA Claims

(*Continued from page 1*)

atres for ATA and Levy put the MPTOA membership at 6,000, both explaining that overlapping membership of roughly 4,000 houses would place the combined total "somewhere between 8,000 and 9,000."

Coyne cited Ted R. Gamble's Monarch Theatres in Indiana, as being both on the ATA and Allied States roster. Maurie Miller's New Jersey houses also are members of both, he added. The ATA-MPTOA consolidation, if crystallized, would have membership representation in every state in the country, Coyne said.

Among those slated to attend the affiliation discussion, which is to begin at the Hotel Astor here today, in addition to Coyne and Levy, are: Fred Wehrenberg, Gamble, Si Fabian, A. Julian Brylawski, Sidney Lust, Ed Fay, James S. Schanklin, Harry and Morris Loewenstein, J. J. O'Leary, Lewen Pizor, Mitchell Wolfson, Mack Jackson, Oscar Lam.

Also, R. B. Wilby, R. J. O'Donnell, E. V. Richards, William Crockett, Henry Reeve, Dan Michalove, Joseph R. Vogel, Leslie E. Thompson, Leonard Goldenson, Ben Strozier, Herman Hunt and William Skirball.

MGM Canada Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

editor of *The Distributor,* company sales publication.

This is the first general meeting of all Canadian branch managers and salesmen to be held in a number of years. Henry L. Nathanson, president of Regal Films, Ltd., M-G-M's Canadian affiliate, and Ted Gould, general sales head for Canada, jointly will conduct the two-day sessions.

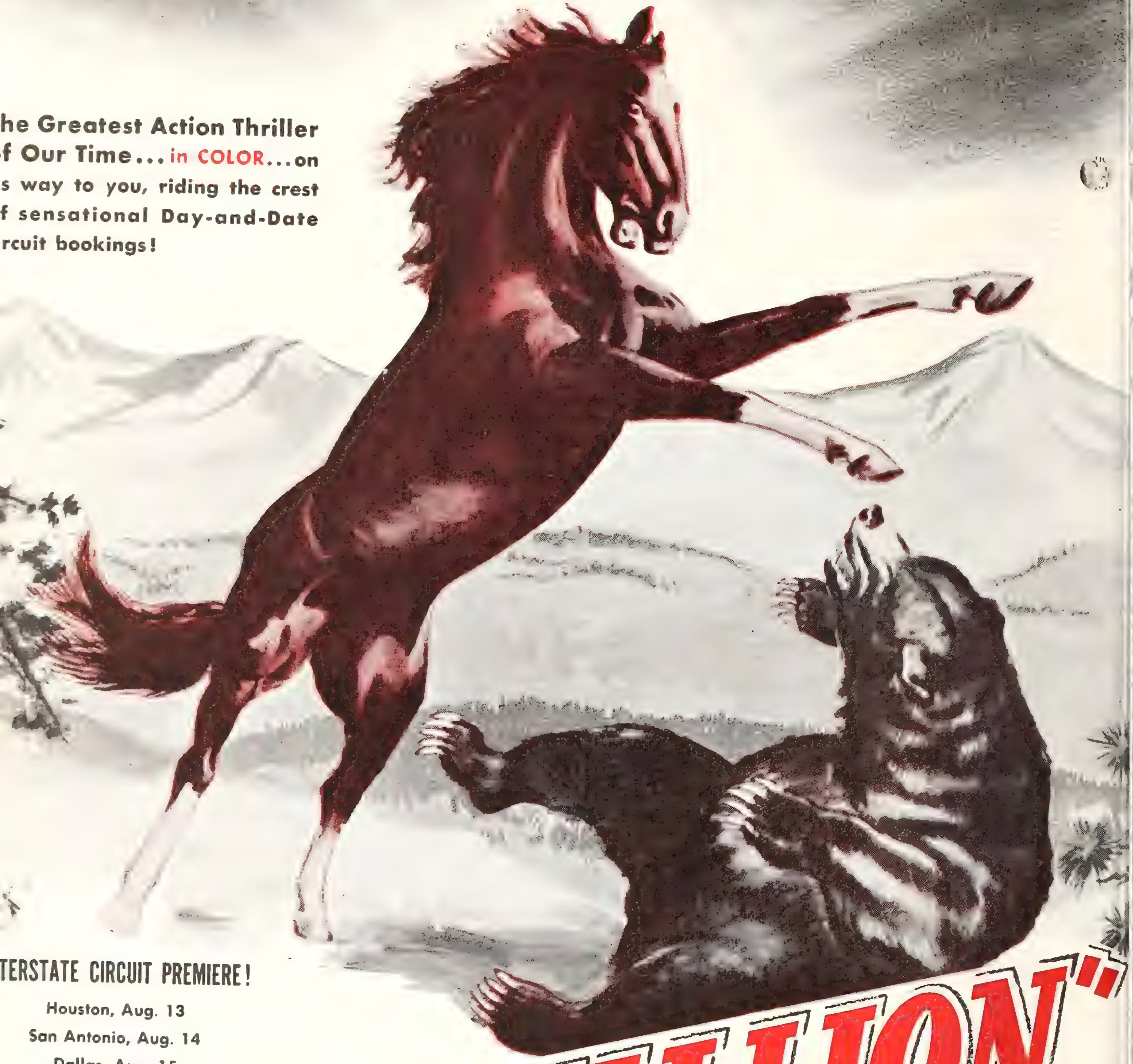
MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
June 15	LITTLE MISS BROADWAY Jean Porter M—69 min.		HIGH CONQUEST Anna Lee Warren Douglas D—83 mins. (620) (Rev. 3/13/47)	DANGER STREET Jane Withers D—66 min. (4623) (Rev. 2/27/47)		SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O—72 min. (684) (Rev. 6/18/47)	**(Block 6)** THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	**(June Releases)** MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Comet) STORK BITES MAN Jackie Cooper C	**(June Releases)** ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O—66 min.	**(June Releases)** LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)	CODE OF THE SADDLE Johnny Mack Brown O—53 min.	THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/1/47)	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Reissue) DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney D—70 min. (Rev. 3/13/45)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)	PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O—56 min. (753) (Rev. 6/30/47)	RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min. (666)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (719) (Rev. 2/3/41)		IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D		(Reissue) MUTINY IN THE BIG HOUSE Charles Bickford D (Rev. 10/11/39)		GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams D—(711)	THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. (619)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)				
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	**(July Releases)** CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	**(July Releases)** BOB, SON OF BATTLE (Color) Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	**(July Releases)** THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	THUNDER-BOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754)	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min.	**(Block 7)** SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)			POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		(Eagle-Lion) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)	(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D		NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)				UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (Rev. 6/17/47)				
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	**(August Releases)** THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (Rec. 6/27/47)	FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—95 min.			RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	**(August Release)** (George Jessel) I WONDER WHOS KISSING HER NOW (Color) M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)		**(August Releases)** BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (Rev. 6/18/47)	CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O-M	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D (Rev. 7/7/47)	SONG OF THE WINCHESTER Jimmy Wakely O		(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash		CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)			SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor C	
Aug. 24											

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

ROARING ACROSS THE COUNTRY

he Greatest Action Thriller
f Our Time... in COLOR...on
s way to you, riding the crest
f sensational Day-and-Date
rcuit bookings!



TERSTATE CIRCUIT PREMIERE!

Houston, Aug. 13
San Antonio, Aug. 14
Dallas, Aug. 15
Ft. Worth, Aug. 16

"RED STALLION"

An Eagle-Lion Films Production
FILMED IN ALL THE
GLORIOUS COLORS
OF THE WEST!

BRYAN FOY, in Charge of Production

S.R.S.—S.R.S.—See RED STALLION!

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

62. NO. 14 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, JULY 21, 1947 TEN CENTS

$190 Million Record Profit For Industry

$101,000,000 Increase in Year Listed by U.S.

WASHINGTON, July 20. — Cororate profits after taxes in the J. S. motion picture industry toaled a record $190,000,000 in 946, the Commerce Department iscloses.

It compares with profits of $89,000,000 after taxes in 1945, and $105,000,000 in 1944.

Corporate profits before taxes toaled $316,000,000 last year. In 1944 hey aggregated $261,000,0000; in 945 the figure was $239,000,000.

The industry paid $126,000,000 last ear in Federal and state corporate ncome and excess profits taxes.

Commerce officials said the report overed all segments of the industry.

Net corporate dividends for 1946 toaled $74,000,000, compared with 40,000,000 in each of the two preious years.

The industry's undistributed cororate profits for the year was set t $116,000,000. In 1945 they were 49,000,000, and in 1944, $65,000,000.

The commerce report shows that

(*Continued on page* 11)

U.A. Board May Take Up Executive Plan

Management problems of United Artists may be discussed informally y the United Artists board of diectors at a meeting here this week.

The meeting had been set tentatively or last Friday but was postponed until tomorrow because of the lack of quorum and because Arthur W.

(*Continued on page* 11)

Talk Contract for 300 NY 'IA' Workers

Representatives of the Skouras ciruit and projectionists' local No. 306, ATSE, met here Friday to discuss the local's request for a 34 per cent wage increase for some 300 employes of the circuit. Another session will be held on July 25.

A similar wage request has been submitted to RKO, Loew and Randorce circuits, but, according to a union spokesman, no reply has been received from them as yet.

55 Features From Allied, Mono. in '48

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 20.—Seven films with a production cost in the "A" classification will be produced for the recently-formed Allied Artists Productions during 1947-48, it was announced over the weekend by president Steve Broidy at the closing session of the company's first annual national convention, held at Skirvin Towers Hotel.

Broidy also announced that the parent company, Monogram Pictures, simultaneously holding its 16th annual convention, would produce 48 features in the same period. Of these, 16 will be in two Western series and 32 will be straight features.

At the same time Broidy also set national release dates during the same period for four completed Allied Artists pictures, which include Jeffrey Bernerd's Cinecolor production, "Black Gold," starring Anthony Quinn; King Brothers' "The Gangster," Barry

(*Continued on page* 11)

MPA Survey Is Off For Six Months

The Motion Picture Association will not complete its countrywide theatre survey for another six months although the program was launched over a year ago, according to executives familiar with the operation.

An MPA meeting here last week resulted in a decision to eliminate from the questionnaire an assortment

(*Continued on page* 11)

MERGER OF ATA, MPTOA APPROVED

To Be 'Theatre Owners Of America' If Ratified By Members in September

Officers and directors of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association at a meeting here on Friday unanimously approved the merger of the two into a new organization to be known as Theatre Owners of America.

The action is subject to ratification by members of both ATA and MPTOA at a joint meeting to be held in Washington, D. C., about Sept. 20.

In the meantime, the officers and directors of ATA and MPTOA will comprise the interim board of directors of Theatre Owners of America. The interim board will be supplemented by a managing committee, and together they will formulate plans and objectives for the organization, to be put before the September meeting.

Members of the managing committee are: Si Fabian, ATA president; Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president; Ted Gamble, ATA chairman; Lewen Pizor, MPTOA chairman; E. V. Richards, ATA director; Harry Lowenstein, MPTOA secretary; Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, and Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel.

Although Friday's meeting was described as "completely harmonious" and the final vote was unanimous, it

(*Continued on page* 10)

Would Cut Imports To Save Newsprint

LONDON, July 20.—During bitter denunciation at the weekend in the House of Commons of the government's decision to cut imports of newsprint, which will reduce the size of newspapers and their circulation, the Conservative opposition indignantly demanded dollar savings by cutting American film imports.

Only dollar-sourced machinery, food and films are now available for cuts, British Board of Trade's Sir Stafford Cripps replied, adding: "We don't want to cut these. The powers being taken under the finance bill dealing with films are the only possible way. It's no good cutting films because it only means that for half the entertainment value one pays twice the price."

Conservative Parliament member Brendan Bracken claimed that if the Government cut by one-quarter the amount of dollars given one film company, dollars would be freed for all the paper imported from America next year. Replied Cripps: "No doubt that statement refers to money Rank is now spending in America hoping to build up British films. Whether he succeeds, as he hopes, none can say; but he has negotiated extremely useful agreements which I am told should produce very considerable dollar receipts. The new agreements are far more extensive than anything we have ever had, and we may expect a considerable volume in dollars from them."

Eric Johnston Mentioned as 1948 Republican Running Mate for Dewey

Salt Lake City, July 20.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, broke into view as a strong possibility for the Republican nomination for Vice-President as a running mate for Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York during the latter's appearance late last week at the annual governors' conference here.

Dewey was scheduled to meet the Washington state Republican delegation, Johnston's home state, at Bozeman, Mont., yesterday, where Johnston's availability for the vice-presidential nomination was to be discussed.

It was indicated here that Johnston would be acceptable to Dewey as a running-mate. The MPA head has an invitation to confer with Dewey at the latter's Pawling, N. Y., home when Johnston returns from his current European tour in about two weeks.

Mulvey in Favor of Simultaneous Runs

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—A study of business conditions in each theatre area, prevailing trade practices, particularly present clearance systems, and consultations with theatremen are planned by James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, in an effort to determine the extent to which

(*Continued on page* 11)

4 Reviews Today

"Song of Love" and "Something in the Wind" are reviewed on page 7. "Rustlers of Devil's Canyon" and "Song of the Wasteland" on page 10.

Personal Mention

Mort Blumenstock, Warner advertising-publicity vice-president; Larry Golob, Eastern publicity director, and Bill Brumberg, field staff manager, were in Skowhegan, Me., over the weekend.

•

Nick Tronolone, vice-president of Pathe Laboratories, left here Saturday for Mexico to turn over operation of Churubusco Studio, built by Pathe, to RKO Radio. He will stop off at Hollywood on his return.

•

David Jones, RKO Radio advertising-publicity director in the United Kingdom, and Mrs. Jones will sail for England on the *SS Mauretania* on July 31.

•

Lew Barasch, United Artists home office trade press contact, who was confined to his home last week by an injured knee, is on vacation for two weeks.

•

Earl McClintoch, chief engineer of the Warner studio sound department, is in town in connection with the forthcoming Warner newsreel.

•

Al Schuman, general manager of Hartford Theatres, and Mrs. Schuman have returned to Hartford from a Hollywood vacation.

•

John Gulfoyle of the Paramount home office advertising production department, is vacationing in Pennsylvania.

•

Ben Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, is due back here early this week from a Midwest trip.

•

Max E. Youngstein, Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity chief, is due back here today from Los Angeles.

•

Max Rosenberg of Motion Picture Ventures left here Saturday by TWA Constellation for Denver.

•

Jack L. Craig has joined Producers Releasing's Oklahoma City branch as a salesman.

WB Deal for Pathe News Reported Set

Basic agreement is understood to have been reached by both principals in the purchase of Pathe News from RKO Radio by Warner Brothers. Culmination, it is said, is now in the hands of the lawyers.

It is reliably reported that the deal provides for a long-term rental franchise of the reel for RKO's theatres.

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, said on Friday that negotiations are progressing.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE Minneapolis Federal Court order of July 10 in the exhibitor-ASCAP case is a compelling example of the futility of the course that has been chosen by so many exhibitors and exhibitor organizations to challenge the music society's right to collect performance fees from exhibitors or to oppose the society's declared intention of collecting more from theatres in the future than it has in the past.

Perhaps the very worst way of approaching the problem is to charge ASCAP in the courts with being a monopoly and testing its right to license performances of its properties for profit.

The Department of Justice learned that in 1940 and had to be content with a consent decree which has had no visible effect in the ensuing seven years on either ASCAP or its licensees. If anyone has profited from that decree it would be ASCAP, whose collections have shown uninterrupted growth since, despite the appearance on the scene of its still anemic competitor, Broadcast Music, Inc.

Yet no fewer than a half dozen exhibitor court actions are pending or in preparation against ASCAP now, and more are being considered.

•

In the so-called Benny Berger case in Minneapolis, the Federal Court held, without any qualification whatever and without any reservations which could encourage exhibitors to adopt a different legal approach, that ASCAP has the right to license both the producer to record its music on film and the exhibitor to publicly perform that music for profit.

The court found that the fact that the music is inseparable from the film and that the exhibitor might not want the music is immaterial. Those considerations are due merely to the progress in the technical development of the sound picture, the court said, and absolved ASCAP of all responsibility for that.

On the point of ASCAP being a monopoly, the court found: "This question need not be, and is not, decided. It is settled law that violations of the anti-trust laws by the copyright owners do not furnish a defense to infringement actions. Defendants (the exhibitors) are entitled to no relief."

That is approximately the result that exhibitors may expect from all such legal actions.

The course that promises the quickest, least costly, most effective and lasting relief was pointed out in these columns recently. It begins with exhibitor unity, or as much of it as can be assembled, and it requires thoroughly competent leadership. That leadership, for such an assignment, is available in E. C. Mills, New York industrial counselor, who was associated with ASCAP for 25 years and was its general manager for most of them.

It requires direct dealing with ASCAP.

• •

J. Arthur Rank came here from London in May for a "vacation." He left here for London last Thursday. He took with him commitments, some verbal and some formal, for playing time for his pictures in virtually every American circuit of consequence and many independent ones; contracts for the services of a number of Hollywood's leading stars and directors; agreements for the exchange or loan of other talent and technical aid when needed by his studios; contracts for American large-screen television equipment for several of his West End theatres in London, and miscellaneous other commitments for equipment manufacture in England.

It begins to look like the familiar pattern of what happens when the English go after trade and commerce. If Rank had been on a "business trip" instead of a "vacation" he probably would have moved the headquarters of the American industry to London on his return trip.

What does the American industry get in return for all of its concessions to and cooperation with Rank?

It gets the right to continue to try to do business in Britain, a right which presently is accompanied by Parliamentary threats of financial penalties if the business done in Britain remains at heretofore normal levels. It is a right that applies only to a part of the American industry, as United Artists, Columbia and sundry independent American producers-distributors can assure you. It is a right which is accompanied by insults and calumniation in the British Parliament and press.

It is fast becoming a right of dubious value and uncertain continuity.

Newsreel Parade

THE newsreel cameras focus attention on the preliminaries to the European rehabilitation conference in Paris; Mrs. Roosevelt as accepting an award for the late President; Gen. MacArthur reviewing a parade in Tokyo, and sports and beauty contests. A glimpse of J. Arthur Rank as he leaves for his native England is provided by Universal. Full conte follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 93—Setting machinery for Paris conference. $25,000,000 airplane on view. Army plane tests. Gift-bearers see Pope Pius in Rome. Innocent man freed after 13 years in jail. Gen. MacArthur's occupation troops on parade. Linda Darnell at Film Festival in Switzerland. Rowing champion returns home. Bicycle marathon in France. "Modern Venus" contest at Coney Island.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 291—Sixteen nations set for Paris confab. Army airplanes in sea maneuvers. Army sergeant involved in theft of atom photographs. Prince Yeman sees President Truman. Ancient kingdom in Arabia. French pay homage to the late President Roosevelt. New cage for Chicago zoo gorilla. Florida beauty contest. Bicycle race in France.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 94—Bicycle race in France. Cat eats corn on the cob. Another cat "adopts" skunks. French honor President Roosevelt. Economic showdown in Europe: Preliminaries to Paris conference and situation in Greece.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 96—U. S. military supplies to Greece, Airplane service to the Orient. French posthumous medal for President Roosevelt. Prepare for "Marshall Plan" conference. Army planes in sea tests. Sink Italian village to build dam. Bicycle race in France.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 57—Paris prepares for "Marshall Plan" conference. Chilean President Videla on tour of South America. Army plane sea experiments. New flying fortress. Troops parade for MacArthur in Tokyo. French honor President Roosevelt. J. Arthur Rank sails for home. Charm school in Florida. "Modern Venus" contest in Coney Island. Bicycle contest in France.

Order Col. Publicist To Leave the U. S.

Philadelphia, July 20.—Lady Iris Mountbatten, British noblewoman, whose employment as a publicist at the home office of Columbia Pictures in New York was announced by the company recently, has been ordered by the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization to get out of the country by Sept. 1.

Commissioner Ugo Carusi said at his headquarters here that a renewal of Lady Iris's tourist visa has been refused because she has engaged in "compensatory work" here in violation of her papers.

Treasury to Publish Admission Tax Study

Washington, July 20.—The U. S. Treasury Department is preparing for publication a study of theatre admission taxes, it was revealed here today. Although it will make no recommendations, the study will go into the effect of taxes on profits, business costs, competition, and the consumer.

Treasury officials said it was impossible to estimate when the study would be completed, but indicated it would be some time this fall.

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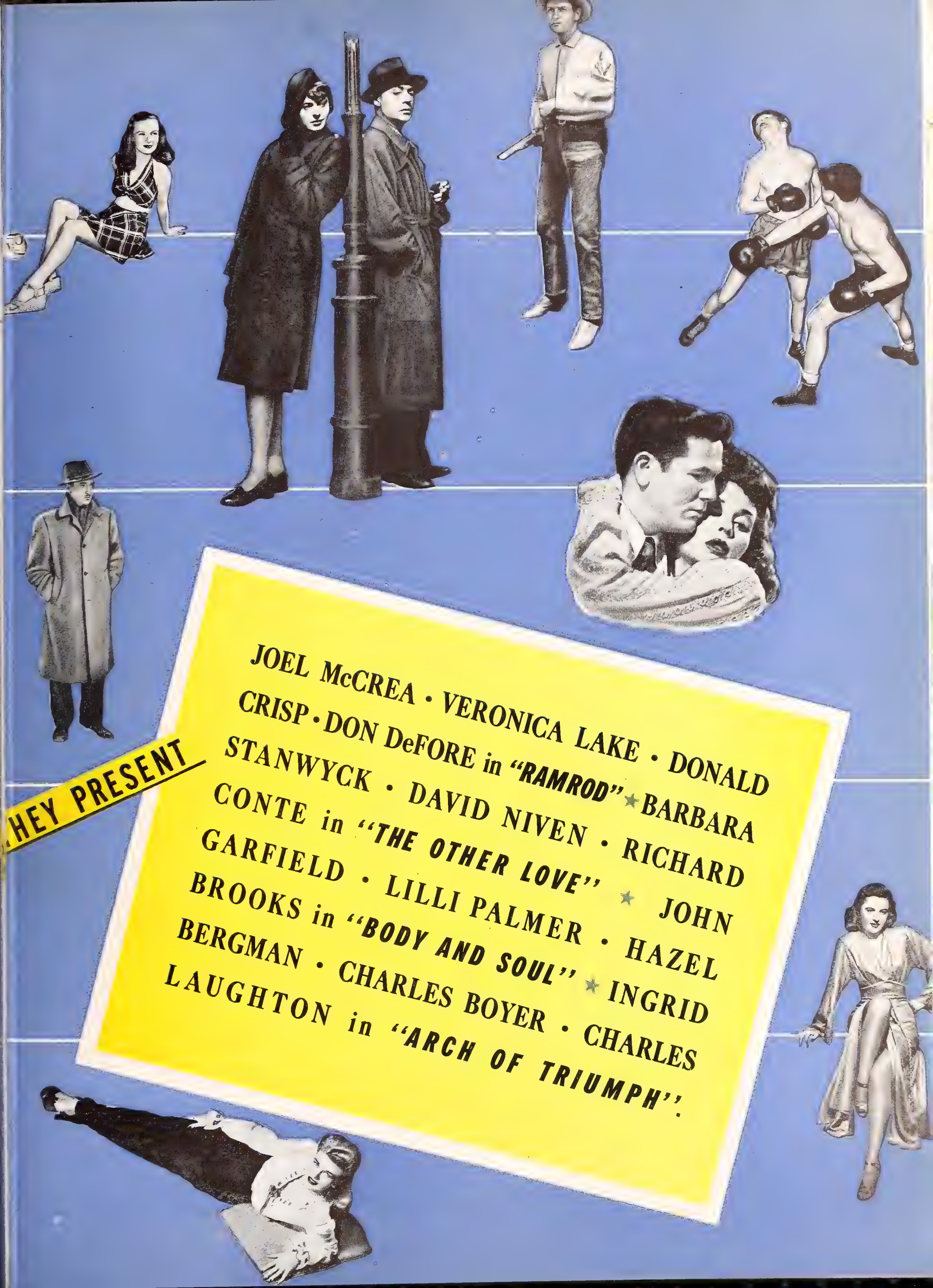

HEY PRESENT

JOEL McCREA · VERONICA LAKE · DONALD CRISP · DON DeFORE in **"RAMROD"** ★ BARBARA STANWYCK · DAVID NIVEN · RICHARD CONTE in **"THE OTHER LOVE"** ★ JOHN GARFIELD · LILLI PALMER · HAZEL BROOKS in **"BODY AND SOUL"** ★ INGRID BERGMAN · CHARLES BOYER · CHARLES LAUGHTON in **"ARCH OF TRIUMPH"**.

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HE PRIZE OF THE INDUSTRY ★ THE PRIDE OF UNITED ARTISTS

PRINTED IN U. S. A.

Portugal Sets Up Entertainment Unit

By JOAO DE MORAES PALMEIRO

LISBON, July 15 (By Airmail).—A government order has created the Gremio Nacional dos Espectaculos (The National Organization of Show Business) which takes in all Portuguese show business, the stage, films, sports and bull-fights. President of the new corporative association is Antonio Lopes Ribeiro, former newspaper man, stage director and exhibitor-producer-distributor.

The film section of the organization will be divided into four departments: studios and laboratories; production; distribution, exhibition. Two other members of the film industry, whose names have not yet been announced, will assist Ribeiro. Former distributor and exhibitor associations are herewith dissolved with the new association to rule over all show business.

The news of this reorganization has been received with great interest in show circles. There will undoubtedly be a number of new dispositions made in the film industry, tying in with the Portuguese film quota law which goes into the final discussion stage when the National Assembly reopens next November. However, the law has been in force since last Jan. 1.

Discussions Continue On Wilcox-Loew Deal

Following preliminary discussions in New York between Loew's International president Arthur M. Loew and British producer Herbert Wilcox on the eve of the latter's return to England last week, negotiations for Loew's distribution of Wilcox's "Courtneys of Curzon Street" in the Western Hemisphere are expected to continue after the producer arrives back in London, Loew indicated at the weekend.

Loew's, it is understood, has been seeking to buy the picture outright along the lines of the deal it made for Wilcox's "Piccadilly Incident." Wilcox, on the other hand, is said to be interested solely in a distribution deal, and not outright sale.

Nathan Stein Heads Theatrical Mutual

OMAHA, July 20.—New York was named host city for the 1949 31st biennial convention of the Theatrical Mutual Association which has ended three days' of sessions here. Nathan Stein of Chicago was elected president, and Philip Hitter of Long Island becomes secretary-treasurer.

Vice-presidents elected include: Wallace E. Young, New York; William R. Noon, New York; W. Charles Mueller, Chicago; Robert Glasgow, Omaha; Arnold Swanson, Chicago; James Perry Oakland, Ia.; Oscar Swanson, Chicago.

'Kissing' Premiere

Eastern premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" takes place tomorrow evening at Skouras's Liberty Theatre in Elizabeth, N. J., preceeded by a banquet at the Elks Club in that city and a parade, with the Army, Coast Guard and veterans' organizations participating. Proceeds of the benefit performance will be given to George T. Cosseler, war hero amputee.

Reviews

"Song of Love"

(*M-G-M*)

GREAT figures of music, and a number of their more popular works, are the hub of a leisurely paced, but generally well done, film in "Song of Love," which concerns itself principally with highlights in the life of Robert Schumann.

Musicologists will have to determine how close to the facts does this attraction adhere. M-G-M acknowledges "certain necessary liberties have been taken with incident and chronology," but it maintains that the basic facts are unchanged. In any event, audiences-at-large will be concerned far less with accuracy than with entertainment.

The entertainment is there. However, it is stretched beyond its own best interests—two hours, less one minute—so that dramatic values become watered and thereby make room for introduction of incident which add nothing to story progression. This tends to place in less favorable perspective many passages of tenderness and heart-touching appeal.

The principal characters are three: Clara Wieck, pianist of repute who chucks her career to marry Schumann, struggling and unarrived composer; and Johannes Brahms, who joins their household to study under Schumann. This mostly placid story narrates Schumann's battle for recognition, never achieved in his lifetime and how his wife, who is the mother of their seven children, lends noble effort to bring this about.

Brahms, meanwhile, falls in love with her and sets out for other parts while Schumann's mind deteriorates under a family heritage of insanity and overwork at his composing. He dies mad. Brahms returns, offers marriage to the widow who determines to spend the rest of her life making Schumann's music known and accepted. By 1890, when she retires from the concert stage, it is conveyed that her mission has been accomplished.

Katharine Hepburn plays Clara, lending only occasional warmth to her technical excellence. Paul Henreid is Schumann, delivering a standard performance. Robert Walker, as Brahms, constantly reminds of Robert Walker; he never seems to get inside the character assigned to him. Henry Daniell, as Franz Liszt, is competent in a cold way. The supporting cast—Leo G. Carroll, Roman Bohnen, Tala Birell, Henry Stephenson, Konstantin Shayne and others—does its little with satisfaction.

"Song of Love" is at its best musically which seems correct for a subject of this kind. "Dedication" is the motif, but also heard are the lovely "Traumerei," portions of Schumann's Concerto in A Minor, as well as his Piano Quartet, "Arabesque" and Cantata from "Faust"; List's E Flat Piano Concerto and Brahms' Fourth Hungarian Dance, his "Cradle Song," extracts from his First Symphony and Rhapsody in G Minor. Audiences will find many of these familiar. And, since Artur Rubinstein was at the keyboard on behalf of the sound track, excellence in rendition is always assured. The M-G-M Symphony Orchestra under William Steinberg does distinguished service.

The film was prepared for the camera by Ivan Tors, Irmgard Von Cube and Allen Vincent, and Robert Ardrey, from a play by Bernard Schubert and Mario Silva. Clarence Brown had the double chore of producing and directing.

Running time, 119 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

"Something in the Wind"

(*Universal-International*) *Hollywood, July 20*

DEANNA DURBIN sings six songs ranging from "hot" to opera in a successful demonstration of her vocal versatility in this otherwise unexceptional compound of story materials cut and hewn to build up her numbers. She shares one number with Jan Peerce, providing showmen with an opportunity to bid for the attendance of opera lovers, and Donald O'Connor shares another.

Star and music content are the picture's principal exploitable assets, with the background story lacking in conviction and the cast, in general, struggling against the script and direction throughout.

The story, an original by Fritz Rotter and Charles O'Neal and scripted by Harry Kurnitz and William Bowers, opens with Miss Durbin pleasantly engaged as a radio disc jockey. John Dall, heir to a recently-deceased millionaire, arrives on the scene to buy her release from a deal under which he tells her the deceased has supported her, suggesting dark implications.

Indignant, she orders him out, but learns later that her aunt who raised her has been receiving the funds. This leads to a wealthy family kidnapping Miss Durbin and pressuring her for money. Many complications ensue before the innocent truth dawns finally, in time for a romantic ending which unites her and Dall.

Although the dialogue, at one point, establishes that the relationship between the millionaire and the aunt was pure, story complications and most other dialogue rest on the generally held belief that the deceased and the girl conducted an illicit affair. Others in the cast include Charles Winninger, Jacqueline DeWit, Helena Carter and Margaret Wycherly.

The film was produced by Joseph Sistrom, who staged it handsomely, and directed by Irving Pichel as if handicapped by the necessity to stop periodically for songs. The picture figures to gratify devotees of Miss Durbin's musical ability, although it is below her average on other counts.

Running time, 88 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

EK's Folsom Calls For Cut in Taxes

Washington, July 20.—M. B. Folsom, treasurer of Eastman Kodak, has asked Congress to cut down Government expenditures in order to reduce taxes.

"It is inequitable to maintain these extremely high wartime taxes for the third year after the war," Folsom told a joint committee on the economic report.

"Pointing out that the levels of personal and corporate income taxes are three times as high now as after the last war, Folsom told the committee that the incentive to invest in new machinery and equipment is much less than it was."

Video Not Practical Yet, Says Academy

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—"Although television for homes is making rapid strides, it needs considerable development before it becomes practical for the theatre," according to a five-point report by the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

The committee said that film production for television is largely limited to 16mm., and that the quality is "not very satisfactory." Color television is "reasonably satisfactory" for theatre presentation but only when images are transmitted by coaxial cable, the report continued.

The committee also declared that large-screen black and white television is still inferior to poor newsreel quality, and that the development of practical theatre television equipment will take longer than the one or two years predicted by equipment producers.

Majors File Suits In Percentage Case

BALTIMORE, July 20.—Suits have been filed against Sam Soltz in U. S. District Court by United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, Paramount, RKO Radio, Warner Brothers and Loew's, on returns on percentage pictures shown at the Howard Theatre here. The complaints allege that the theatre's records furnished for inspection failed to disclose actual receipts.

J. Cookman Byrd Jr., of the Baltimore firm of Tydings, Sauerwein, Archer, Benson and Boyd, signed the complaint for Loew's, and R. Dorsey Watkins of Piper, Watkins, Avirett and Egerton, also of Baltimore, for the others. Sargoy and Stein of New York are also of counsel.

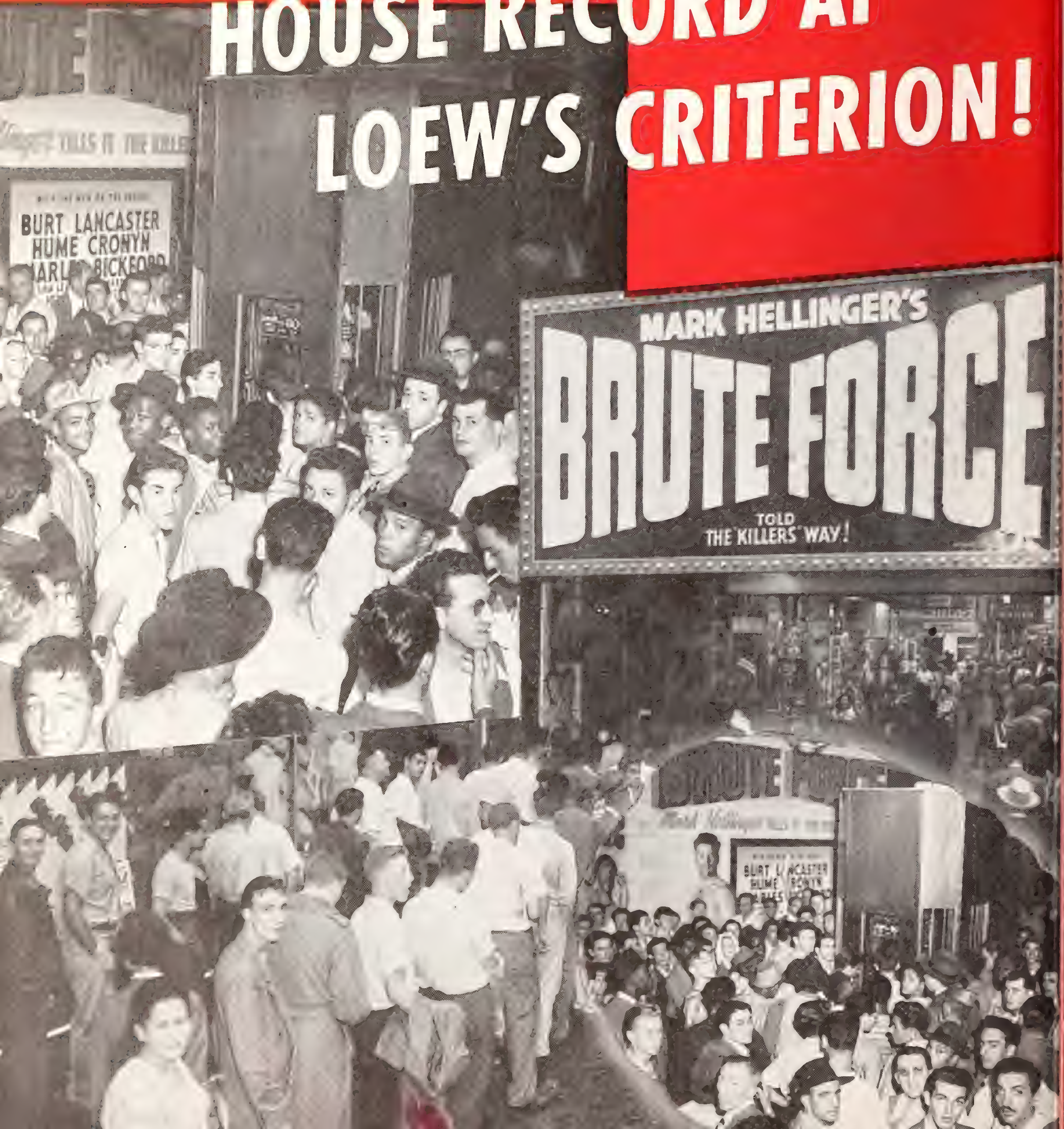
Loew's $43,371,000

Doremus and Co., which handles financial statements for Loew's, and others, reports that it erred in listing Loew's gross sales and operating revenues at $43,371,000 for the 40 weeks ending June 5 last. That figure, Doremus states, applies rather to the 12 weeks ending June 5.

Henry Kolker, 76

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—Funeral services were held at Wee Kirk Heather, Forest Lawn, yesterday for Henry Kolker, 76, screen actor, who died here last Tuesday. His widow survives.

THEY STORMED THE DOORS TO HANG UP A NEW HOUSE RECORD AT LOEW'S CRITERION!


MARK HELLINGER'S
BRUTE FORCE
TOLD THE KILLERS' WAY!
BURT LANCASTER
HUME CRONYN

CHARLES MOSS,

Managing Director, Loew's Criterion, New York, says this:

"We never believed it possible that the Criterion Theatre could hit an opening day figure such as we did on BRUTE FORCE, which broke all records by 30%. Audiences of all types literally stormed the doors. There is no doubt about BRUTE FORCE being a big* hit."

Get in early on this big business. Date it now.

Mark Hellinger's

Brute Force

with the men on the "inside"

BURT LANCASTER · HUME CRONYN · CHARLES BICKFORD

SAM LEVENE · HOWARD DUFF · ART SMITH · JEFF COREY

and as the women on the "outside"

YVONNE DeCARLO · ANN BLYTH · ELLA RAINES · ANITA COLBY

a MARK HELLINGER Production · Directed by JULES DASSIN · Screenplay by RICHARD BROOKS · From a story by Robert Patterson

Associate Producer: JULES BUCK · A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE

Also breaking records in the phenomenal five-theatre run, Los Angeles.** ***(United Artists, Fox Ritz, Guild, Iris, Studio City.)

Short Subject

"Divorce—USA"

(Telenews)

Based on a *Newsweek Magazine* report of the divorce problem in the US, this film documents frankly and seriously the epidemic proportions which the American marital crack-up has reached. Facts and figures are cited, and actual courtroom scenes during divorce proceedings are shown. Although the tragedy of the situation is strongly emphasized, there are a few humorous overtones wrapped in occasional sardonic remarks made by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Charles S. Burnell during the course of some trials.

Produced and written by Jack Tobin and edited by Marshall Davidson, the film emerges as an eye-opening, though necessarily sketchy, analysis of one of America's biggest social problems. Hugh James narrates. Running time, 14 minutes.

Bell and Howell Nets $571,299

Bell and Howell Co. reports for the quarter ended June 30, a net profit of $571,299 after charges and taxes, equal, after preferred dividend requirements to $1.17 a common share on 462,375 shares. For the six months ended June 30, net profit was $1,311,672 or $2.70 a common share.

Bell and Howell directors have declared an extra dividend of 25 cents and the regular quarterly dividend of 12½ cents on the common, payable Sept. 1 to stock of record on Aug. 15.

Senator Lauds WB Series

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Warner Brothers' series of color featurettes on American history have been singled out for praise on the Senate floor by Sen. Martin of Pennsylvania.

Senator Martin said the studio should be commended for an "important contribution to good citizenship, an outstanding example of the kind of service that motion pictures can render to the nation"

The Pennsylvania Republican originally rose to speak in support of a bill introduced by Sen. Aiken to authorize $2,250,000 for the U. S. Office of Education to procure and distribute films on Americanism. Martin said it was important these films be made available to adults as well as school children.

Release 'Le Diable'

The print of the French picture, "Le Diable Au Corps," which was impounded by the United States Customs a month ago, has been released to Paul Graetz, its producer, and is now on its way to Hollywood to be screened for executives of Universal-International. The picture, which was financed by U-I, will be released here in September.

Lou Spector, 27

Lou Spector, 27, Allied Artists field exploiteer and formerly in charge of Monogram publicity in Canada, died suddenly in Louisville, last Thursday while working on a promotional campaign, the Allied Artists office, here, reported at the weekend. Funeral services will be held in Montreal early this week.

Reviews

"Rustlers of Devil's Canyon"

(Republic)

THIS latest edition in Republic's Red Ryder series, starring Allan Lane, is firmly grooved along familiar story lines, but it was well directed by R. G. Springsteen, and carries good acting, plenty of action and a bang-up climax. Theatres which show the film will be giving the customers their money's worth.

Lane, back in his native frontier village after the Spanish-American War, finds the area overrun with cattle rustlers. Plenty of gun-fighting keeps the local doctor pretty busy. Meanwhile, homesteaders move in and a three-way feud among rustlers, cattlemen and homesteaders develops—the homesteaders mistakingly believing that the cattlemen intend to evict them. Peace comes to the region when Lane shows up the doctor as being the brains behind the rustlers. Bobby Blake again plays the part of Lane's young side-kick, Little Beaver; among others in the cast are Martha Wentworth, Peggy Stewart, Arthur Space, Emmett Lynn and Roy Barcroft. Earle Snell wrote the screenplay, Sidney Picker was associate producer.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 1.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Song of the Wasteland"

(Monogam)

BADMEN in the guise of vigilantes offer Jimmy Wakely trouble in this Western which is loaded with the usual whoop-de-do and comfortably meets the requirements of its classification. When not fighting, riding, or shooting, Wakely, with aid of his guitar, also finds time for some vocals. Others in the cast who keep things brewing are Lee (Lasses) White, Dotty Brown and Henry Hall.

The original screenplay, by J. Benton Cheney, has the villains pinning phoney accusations on the ranchers, then running them out of town and confiscating their land. With a new railroad coming through, the idea appears to be a lucrative one. Before things are finally righted, Wakely goes through a number of jams and complications that provide the standard excitement. The direction of Thomas Carr stresses action. Barney Sarecky produced.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Britain Withdraws Another 150 Millions

Washington, July 20.—Britain has withdrawn another one hundred and fifty million dollars of its fast-dwindling U. S. loan, the Treasury Department reveals, and at the present rate of withdrawal the entire loan will be consumed before the end of the year.

Total withdrawals to date amount to two thousand four hundred and fifty million dollars, leaving one thousand three hundred million still unexpended. Britain withdrew four hundred million dollars in the first half of this month.

Chaplin, Sarcastic, Accepts Probe 'Bid'

HOLLYWOOD, July 20.—Following newspaper reports that he would be summoned to Washington in September, Charles Chaplin telegraphed J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Un-American Activities Committee, giving "premature acceptance of your headlined newspaper invitation."

Commenting with sarcasm that the committee could have quizzed him while it was conducting a 10-day investigation here recently, Chaplin asserted: "I am not a Communist." He referred Thomas to "Monsieur Verdoux" as an indication of his sentiments and pointed out: "It is against war and a futile slaughter of our youth. . . . I am a peace monger."

Arthur Silverstone In New 20th Post

Arthur Silverstone, joint assistant managing director for 20th Century-Fox in Great Britain, will not return to his post abroad after a forthcoming trip here, it was disclosed at the weekend by Andrew W. Smith Jr., general sales manager.

It is understood that Silverstone will join the domestic sales force after his arrival.

MPTOA - ATA

(Continued from page 1)

was learned that wide differences of views existed within the two groups on such subjects as ATA's pending petition to intervene in the government's New York anti-trust suit; the selection of a name for the new organization and whether or not the new organization will include trade practices in its area of activities.

MPTOA, it was learned, flatly rejected ATA's proposal that it join in the intervention action or commit the new organization to the action. ATA flatly refused to withdraw from the action. The issue was settled by authorizing ATA to pursue its intervention appeal now in the Supreme Court, while MPTOA will continue in existence solely for the purpose of pursuing its amicus curiae action in the same suit.

Whether or not this compromise arrangement is acceptable to Loew's and RKO theatres which withdrew from ATA because of the intervention action could not be learned on Friday. Malcolm Kingsberg, head of RKO Theatres; L. E. Thompson, also of RKO, and Joseph R. Vogel, head of Loew's Theatres, attended Friday's meeting. In any event, it is felt that the issue, even if its solution is unacceptable to RKO and Loew's, will require no action by either in advance of the ratification of the merger next September.

Under this arrangement, there will be no actual Theatre Owners of America, as an entity, until the New York anti-trust suit has been disposed of by the Supreme Court, which could be next spring or summer.

The selection of the name for the new organization also represented a compromise. ATA had proposed its name for the new organization and MPTOA wanted to retain the name of the older organization.

Indications are that ATA gave ground on the elimination of trade practices from the activities of the new organization. Under ATA by-laws, that organization does not participate in trade practices although it waived this stand in the case of its intervention action. MPTOA was adamant for trade practice activities and the issue was resolved by leaving it to the membership meeting in September for decision.

Indications are, however, that Theatre Owners of America will not eliminate trade practices entirely from its sphere of interest.

The interim board and managing committee will prepare a schedule of dues for members which is expected to be a graduating scale based either on number of theatre units in a member's operations or theatre seats.

The board and committee also will prepare a slate of officers for the new organization and will propose an executive secretary. Present officers of both MPTOA and ATA will resign when the merger is ratified. Mitchell Wolfson, who has been mentioned as a possibility for president of the new organization, did not attend Friday's meeting.

It was reported that Coyne will leave the organization when it is established but that Levy will continue as its general counsel.

The new organization, when perfected, will have about 9,000 theatre members, it was claimed. All national affiliated circuits except Warners are included in it and numerous smaller regional circuits and individual theatres.

Those present at Friday's meeting included: Dan Michalove, Gamble, Ben Strozier, Martin Mullin, Coyne, Henry Ferber, Wehrenberg, A. Julian Brylawski, James Shanklin, Mack Jackson, Lowenstein, Levy, Ed Fay, Harry Lowenstein, J. J. O'Leary, Leonard Goldenson, Arthur Mayer, Kingsberg, R. J. O'Donnell, W. F. Crockett, Sidney Lust, Thompson, Richards, Fabian, Vogel, Herman Hunt, Pizor, Oscar Doob, Henry Reeve, Richard Biechele and Sam Shain.

Man Bites Dog

In a turnabout, Si Fabian, recent negotiator for purchase of United Artists, turned to trade press representatives assembled at the Astor Hotel here at the close of the joint meeting of the boards of MPTOA and ATA on Friday and asked:

"What's new at United Artists, boys?"

AA-Mono.

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sullivan-Belita co-starred; Scott R. Dunlap's "The Hunted," starring Bolita and Preston Foster, and the Symphony Films production, "Song of My Heart," based on the career of Tchaikowsky, with Frank Sundstrom and Audrey Long heading the cast.

Set to enter production under the Allied banner are "Red Light," to be produced and directed by Roy Del Ruth; "The Tenderfoot," produced by King Brothers with Eddie Albert and Gale Storm co-starred; "Smart Woman," to be produced by Hal E. Chester, with Brian Aherne, Constance Bennett and Barry Sullivan heading the cast; Alfred Noyes' poem, "The Highwayman," to be produced by James S. Burkett; and "Last of the Badmen," Jay Monoghan story which will star Barry Sullivan and will be produced by King Brothers. Also announced, and to be filmed in Cinecolor, are "Land of the Sky Blue Waters," with the music of Charles Wakefield Cadman, and "North of Nome," the Jack London story.

Wrather to Produce Two

Producer Jack Wrather is planning to produce two high budget films,—"Follow Me Quietly" and "Turning Point," a story of the Texas oil fields. In addition, president Broidy has signed with Edward Nassour, head of the recently constructed Nassour Studios in Hollywood, a two-year contract under the terms of which the latter will produce "Panamint City," a Western, and Haven McClure's "Onward," described as a Protestant "Going My Way." Whether the Wrather and Nassour high-budgeters will be included on the new season's release slates will be determined by Broidy later.

The Monogram program will include "Louisiana," biographical story of Gov. Jimmie Davis of that state, with Margaret Lindsay playing opposite him, and directed by Phil Karlson for producer Lindsley Parsons; "Panhandle," to be produced by John C. Champion and Blake Edwards; "The Big Flight," produced by Carl Krueger; "That Guy Palooka," starring Leon Errol with Joe Kirkwood and Elyse Knox, produced by Hal E. Chester, with Reginald LeBorg directing; "High Tide," produced by Wrather with Lee Tracy, Don Castle, Anabel Shaw and Julie Bishop co-starred, and John Reinhardt directing. "Sixteen Fathoms Deep," jointly produced by Irving Allen and James S. Burkett, and directed by the former, in color.

Other Properties in Program

Other properties on the new program include another Palooka film and a second Wrather production, "The Quest of Willie Hunter," starring Don Castle; "Jiggs and Maggie in Society," produced by Barney Gerard and directed by Eddie Cline, with Dale Carnegie, Arthur Murray, Joe Yule and Renie Riano; two films to be produced by Lindsley Parsons, with Roddy McDowall as star, will be "Rocky" and "Mysterious Island," the latter from the novel by Jules Verne; three productions by Walter Mirisch, "I Wouldn't Be in Your Shoes," by Steve Fisher; "Gay Deceivers," adapted from an I. A. R. Wylie story by Paul Osborn, with Gale Storm, and "Fight For Glory." Also, Jeffrey Bernerd will produce two high-budget exploitation pictures.

Six "Anniversary Features" will be "Devil's Paradise," "Jungle Madness," "Panic," "Fortune Seekers," "Revenge in the Night" and "Behind the Star."

In the series field, Jan Grippo will produce four Bowery Boys films starring Leo Gorcey; James S. Burkett will produce three Charlie Chan pictures starring Roland Winters, the first to be "Murder by Alphabet"; and Will Jason will produce and direct three "Teen-Agers" musicals, with Freddie Stewart and June Preisser featured.

There will be eight Westerns starring Johnny Mack Brown with Raymond Hatton, produced by Barney A. Sarecky, and eight singing Westerns starring Jimmy Wakely with "Cannonball" Taylor, to be produced by Bennett Cohen.

$190 Million Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

the U. S. spent about $1,688,000,000 on all types of amusement admissions last year, compared with $1,393,000,000 in 1945. No figures are given on how much of this went to motion picture theatres, but in previous years they are said to have accounted for a little more than 80 per cent of the total.

The industry contributed $1,130,000,000 to the national income last year, compared with $874,000,000 the year before. Wages and salaries paid by the industry totaled $706,000,000, compared with $550,000,000 in 1945.

Unincorporated enterprises in the industry had a $76,000,000 income last year, compared to about $55,000,000 in each of the three previous years.

The industry paid out $7,000,000 more in interest last year than it received in interest; this is the same as the 1945 figure. In 1943 and 1944, it was $6,000,000, but varied between $8,000,000 and $28,000,000 in previous years.

The average number of full-time and part-time employes in the industry was 256,000 in 1946. In 1945 there were 244,000. Average annual earnings for each full-time employee was $3,056, compared with $2,500 in 1945 and $2,379 in 1944.

Corporate sales totaled $1,804,000,000.

U. A. Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

Kelly, a Charles Chaplin representative on the board, extended his current stay in Hollywood. He had been expected here on Friday. There was still no definite word at the weekend on his return to New York, which makes a meeting of the board tomorrow doubtful.

Kelly is expected to report Chaplin's views on the company situation and, if those views are inconclusive, the board may draw up and propose a management plan of its own for owners Mary Pickford and Chaplin to consider.

Possibility also exists that the board may elect a new director to fill an existing vacancy.

Gov't Evicts Firm From Nevada Plant

WASHINGTON, July 20.—The War Assets Administration has cancelled the lease of Allied Productions of New York, to sections of the Government's basic magnesium plant at Henderson, Nev. Allied had a 25-year lease on several warehouses and other buildings for storage and film production purposes. The Government's action was reported to be based on the fact that Allied has done nothing in the way of utilizing its property. No rent was required, under the contract, until the property was actually used. The contract was criticized during a recent Senate investigation of WAA's policies in disposing of the plant.

MPA Survey Delayed

(*Continued from page* 1)

of types of information sought, deemed to be unnecessary after the Buffalo area had been test-checked and the findings collated. Among the abandoned items were queries on population, break-down on age groups and the like, it was said.

Admission scales and matters pertaining to exhibitor-distributor relations, such as the number of percentage pictures booked, are not now in the program although at the start of the survey it was indicated they were.

The survey is now intended to ascertain the number of houses in each exchange area, seating capacity, ownership, affiliation (circuit or otherwise), run and policy (single or double feature, Hollywood or foreign product). Results of the project will be made public, it is said.

Simultaneous Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

simultaneous runs can be effectively adopted throughout the country.

Mulvey said he has no definite formula for putting the idea of multiple day-and-date bookings into effect. Theatre areas must be given individual attention as to exhibitors' receptivity to the plan, the most feasible number of theatres to join in it and present clearances which first runs enjoy, he said.

Mulvey stressed that he will take no arbitrary action, is not out to fight theatremen into agreements but offers his proposal to "replace the whole system of runs and clearances as we now know it" in anticipation of the time when simultaneous runs will be a necessity, he stated.

Goldwyn's latest, "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," will be the first to be sold on the simultaneous-run basis, Mulvey reported.

Appeal on 'The Outlaw'

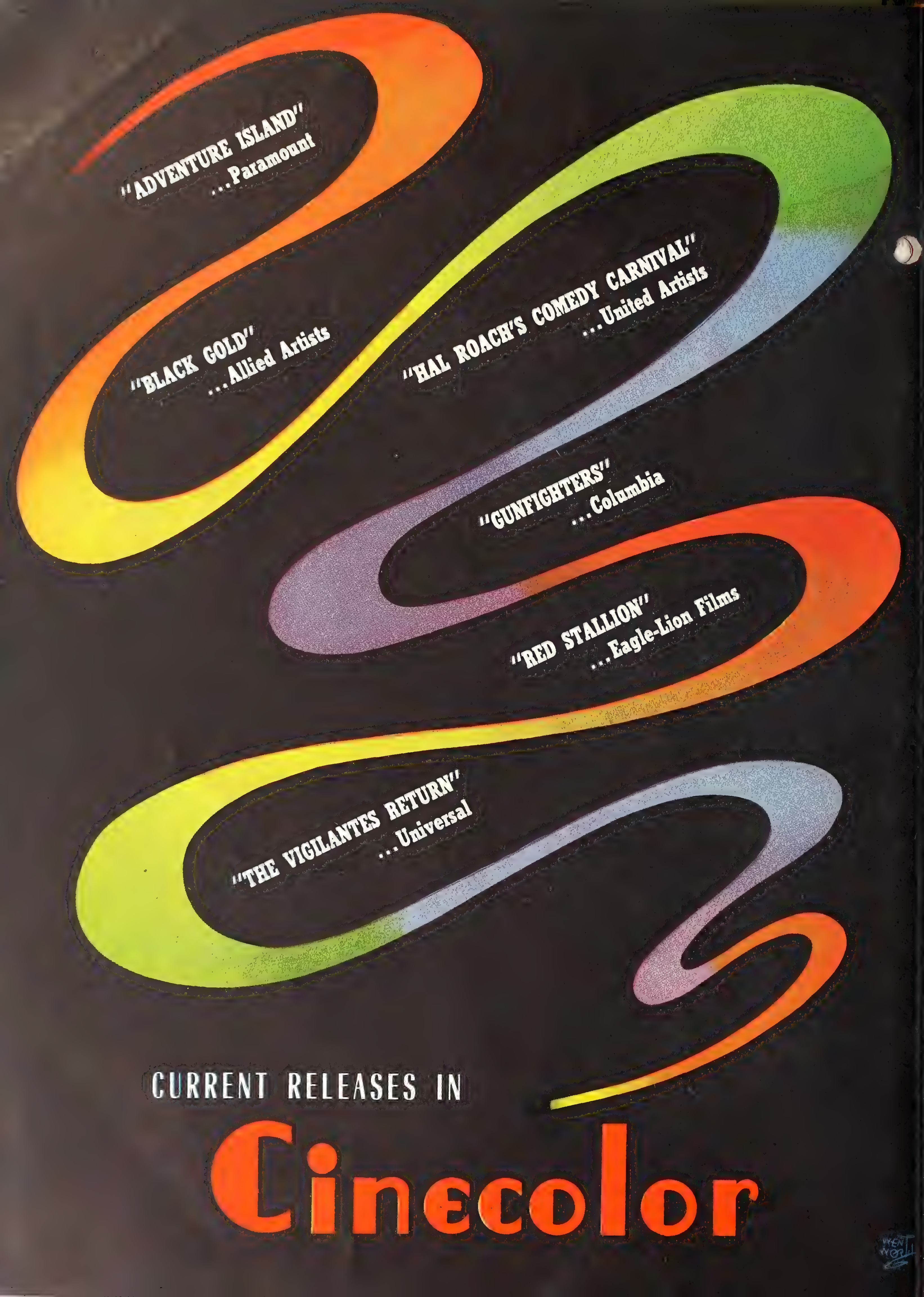
BALTIMORE, July 20.—Denying that "The Outlaw" is "obscene, indecent, inhuman and immoral," United Artists has appealed to the Baltimore City Court for permission to show the picture in Maryland. The appellant declares the State Board of Censors refused to allow the film to be shown in the state, rejecting it on the charges stated.

$1.06 'U' Dividend

The board of directors of Universal Pictures has declared a dividend of $1.06 per share on the four and one-quarter per cent cumulative preferred stock, payable Sept. 1 to stockholders of record on Aug. 15.

Another Re-release from Franchise Holders of
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
Francis LEDERER Ida LUPINO
MATINEE SCANDAL

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
"ANGELS OF THE STREETS"
(French Version With English Subtitles)
★
NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY
★
M-G-M SCREEN ROOM
630 NINTH AVENUE, N. Y. C.
TUESDAY, JULY 29TH
3:30 P. M.



"ADVENTURE ISLAND" ...Paramount

"BLACK GOLD" ...Allied Artists

"HAL ROACH'S COMEDY CARNIVAL" ...United Artists

"GUNFIGHTERS" ...Columbia

"RED STALLION" ...Eagle-Lion Films

"THE VIGILANTES RETURN" ...Universal

CURRENT RELEASES IN

Cinecolor

O NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTI E
DAILY

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK 18,
N. Y. (2 COPIES)

Accurate Concise and Impartial

OL. 62. NO. 15 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

Rathvon Gets 1st Call on Odlum Stock

RKO Control Involved; CBS Deal Is Cold

All conditions being equal, first call on purchase of control of RKO from the Floyd B. Odlum-Atlas Corp. interests will go to N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, who is now endeavoring to form a syndicate for this purpose.

Odlum is in continuing poor health and is understood to be proceeding on a program providing for a reduction of Atlas' stock portfolio which included 929,000 shares of RKO common as of the company's last financial report, dated Dec. 31. This block, plus over 300,000 in stock warrants, constitutes the controlling interest in RKO.

An earlier deal along these lines with William Paley under which RKO would have passed to the Columbia Broadcasting System is under-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Name Two to Aid in Coast 'Red' Probe

WASHINGTON, July 21.—The House Un-American Activities Committee investigation of alleged Communist infiltration in the industry gathered momentum today with the appointment of two special investigators to work full time on the Hollywood angle of the current investigation.

Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas announced the appointment of H. A. Smith as special investigator to direct the investigating staff now conducting inquiries in California. A. B. Leckie was appointed as his first assistant. Both are former Federal

(*Continued on page 7*)

Silverstone UK Post Absorbed by Kupper

The post of joint assistant managing director for 20th Century-Fox in Great Britain will not be filled after Arthur Silverstone, who now holds that position, returns to this country. Silverstone will receive a new assignment. Instead it is understood the post in London will be absorbed by William J. Kupper, new managing director for the company in Great Britain. Kupper left here on July 2 for London.

'Brute,' 'Hucksters,' 'Cry Wolf' Shatter NY 1st-Run Records

The current week brought several new films to town resulting in good business in the main at Broadway first-runs and no less than three instances of record-shattering income. "The Hucksters," "Brute Force" and "Cry Wolf" are walking off with top box-office honors.

"Brute Force" is demonstrating rare drawing power at the Criterion where the first week's revenue is estimated at between $60,000 and $65,000, a substantial gain over the previous record mark of $55,000 scored by "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest." The house is grinding out 10 performances daily, operating through to 4:30 A.M.

"The Hucksters" with the De Mar-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Loew's, Schlesinger in 10-Year Product Deal

A 10-year contract for the showing of all M-G-M releases throughout African Consolidated Theatres, was closed here yesterday by Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International, and I. W. Schlesinger, presi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPTOA to Confer With Mills on Ascap

The MPTOA board of directors at its meeting here last weekend, authorized Herman Levy, general counsel, to confer with E. C. Mills, former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and now an industrial consultant, on the possibilities of his serving as advisor for exhibitors in their efforts to resist the imposition of increased music tax rates on theatres by Ascap.

ITOA Seeks Ascap Rate Plan Data

Attorneys for New York exhibitor plaintiffs in the Federal Court suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, charging violations of the Sherman and Clayton Acts, have asked Ascap to make known the nature of its plans to raise licensing charges for theatres.

The law firm of Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allan and Spett, in a letter to the music licensing association, says

(*Continued on page 7*)

Move on in Parliament To End Renters' Quota

By WILLIAM PAY

LONDON, July 18 (By Airmail).—Sir Henry French's—he is director-general of the British Film Producers' Association—latest attempt to persuade the government of the necessity for abolishing the distributors' film quota in the forthcoming Act of Parliament, has been to address a private meeting of members of parliament, explaining the producers' position, as set out in their memorandum to the Board of Trade. Members were impressed by his arguments but expressed a desire to hear from other sections of the industry.

Meanwhile, W. R. Fuller, secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, still confident that the Board of Trade will recommend that the government retain the renters' quota. considers that until the government outlines its proposals in a White Paper, in August, the exhibitors should hold off their arguments.

"It will be Sir Stafford Cripps,

(*Continued on page 7*)

NCA 'Marking Time' On Companies' Probe

Minneapolis, July 21.—Bennie Berger, president of North Central Allied, discloses that to date there has been no move by distributors to indicate any early investigation of the trade practice complaints made by the NCA which prompted the planned publication of newspaper ads asking President Truman and Congress to investigate the entire industry. Berger stated he is "marking time," but expects distributors to keep their promise to probe the complaints for adjustment.

Main complaint is the high number of percentage pictures and percentage terms demanded from small towns and small subsequent theatres.

Plan National Application of 20th Formula

Tests of Rental Policy Completed in New Haven

After the tests in the New Haven territory, the new 20th Century-Fox small town and sub-subsequent run sales plan will be put into effect nationally "very soon," Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, discloses here. It could apply to some 6,000 small accounts.

All parties involved in the New Haven tests "like" the new plan, Smith said. The tests were supervised by sales executives Ray Moon and Edward Callahan, in cooperation with Benjamin A. Simon, New Haven branch manager. It is understood that the company has 25 accounts in the area and has deals pending with seven.

Smith first announced the plan at the New Jersey Allied convention at

(*Continued on page 6*)

TOA Group Meets Tomorrow on Plans

The first meeting of the managing committee whose purpose it is to draft a proposed constitution and set of bylaws and formulate other plans for the organizational convention of the proposed Theatre Owners of America will be held here tomorrow, Robert W. Coyne, executive director of American Theatres Association, disclosed here yesterday.

The new organization, designed as an affiliation of ATA and the MPTOA and already approved by of-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Several U. S. Circuits Book Rank Product

U. S. circuits which have already signed with the Universal-Rank organization here for J. Arthur Rank's "Odd Man Out," "Great Expectations" and "Stairway to Heaven," include Warners, RKO, Paramount, Loew's, Fabian, Interstate, Wilby,

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"Her Husband's Affairs," "The Burning Cross" and "The Green Cockatoo" are reviewed on page 4. Key city gross reports are on page 6.

Clash Expected in Exchange Confabs

A "serious situation" exists in connection with forthcoming negotiations between the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, and Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia, involving more than 100 exchange employes, Otto Langer, secretary-treasurer of the local, said here yesterday.

The present two-year contract for the exchange employes expires Aug. 1. Demands for 30 per cent or $10 weekly increases, a 35-hour week, and improved seniority and grievance machinery, were submitted in mid-June, and the companies have set the first negotiating session for July 25, only six days before the contract expiration, Langer said.

A bulletin issued yesterday by the local stated: "The exchange employes insist that the meeting date be moved up, in order to complete a new contract by Aug. 1."

The bulletin also pointed out that on July 28, the local would submit demands for a $10 weekly increase, or 30 per cent, whichever is higher, for some 2,500 home office employes in the industry here, under a wage-reopening clause.

Decorators Local Undecided On Return-to-Work Proposal

Hollywood, July 21.—Following a weekend of heated debate, Set Decorators Local No. 1421 tabled a return-to-work resolution offered after a meeting with the major producers' labor committee last week. The local's executive committee, however, will set a date for further deliberations on the resolution in a few days.

Meanwhile, Herbert K. Sorrell, business agent of the Painters local, with which 1421 is affiliated, set a meeting with the producers' committee for next Monday.

Theatre Janitors Get Increase in Chicago

Chicago, July 21.—Union janitors here accepted a new two-year contract last night which boosts their wages to $1.08 hourly and guarantees a work week of 48 hours. Women building employes were raised to 88 cents hourly with a guaranteed 40-hour week, according to T. J. Burke, president of Local No. 25, Chicago office of the Theatre and Amusement Building Janitors Union, AFL. Burke also said the contract affects 8,000 employes. In addition to being retroactive to June 30, the contract has a wage reopening clause.

Hiram Brown, Jr., to Aid David Selznick

Hollywood, July 21.—Hiram S. Brown, Jr. has joined Vanguard Films as business assistant to David O. Selznick, it was announced here today. He will begin his duties immediately. Previous to service with the Army in June, 1942, Brown was executive-producer in charge of Westerns for Republic.

Personal Mention

ERIC JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association president, will arrive in London this evening, from the Continent, will hold a press conference tomorrow and will fly to New York on Thursday.

•

Arthur De Bra, director of the Motion Picture Association's community service department, is on vacation and is due back at his New York office next Monday.

•

John Phelps has become manager of the Brown Theatre, Louisville, Ky., replacing **Harry Newton** who took over the reins at the Strand in that city.

•

Theodore R. Kupferman of the Warner legal department here has been appointed a member of the copyright committee of the New York City Bar Association.

•

Lynn Farnol, Eastern director of advertising-publicity for Goldwyn Productions, is back in town from a Northern Ontario fishing trip with 40 trout.

•

Jack Levin, **Harold L. Grove** and **Jules Z. Willing**, Confidential Reports executives, returned to New York yesterday from Cleveland.

•

Jay Eisenberg, liaison between M-G-M's sales and legal departments, returned here yesterday from a Midwest tour.

•

William B. Zoellner, M-G-M short subjects head, arrived in Oklahoma City yesterday from Kansas City.

•

Mrs. Rudy Berger, wife of M-G-M's Southern sales manager, left New York yesterday for Washington where she will spend a week.

•

Madeleine White, Monogram and Allied Artists publicist in New York, and her husband, **Al Cormier** will begin a two-week vacation Friday.

•

Sam Marx, M-G-M producer, has returned to the Coast after a vacation here and on Cape Cod, Mass.

•

Agnes Mengel Grew, Paramount purchasing agent, is due back here today from a vacation.

•

Jimmy Powers, Paramount home office photographer, is on vacation.

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists distribution vice-president, returned to the home office from England yesterday.

•

Louis ("Uncle Lou") Weinberg, Columbia home office executive, and **Sam Galanty**, district manager, were in Cleveland over the weekend for talks with **Oscar Ruby**, branch manager there.

•

Mrs. Nate J. Blumberg, wife of Universal's president; **Stan** and **Mrs. Meyer**, their son-in-law and daughter, arrived here from the Coast by air last night.

•

Walter Lloyd, manager of the M. and P. Allyn Theatre, Hartford, and **Mrs. Lloyd** are vacationing in Florida.

•

Sherburne Hutchinson, manager of Warner's Madison Theatre, Albany, N. Y., and **Mrs. Hutchinson** are parents of a boy.

•

W. Ray Johnston, Monogram-Allied Artists board chairman, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

Cecil B. DeMille, Paramount producer, has been awarded a certificate for "Distinguished Services" by the American Cancer Society.

•

Glen Cook, Monogram production manager, and **Mrs. Cook** returned to the studio yesterday from a two-week vacation.

•

William E. Osborne, Monogram Far East representative, is in Wellington, New Zealand, en route to the Middle East.

•

A. C. Lyles, Jr., Pine-Thomas Productions press representative, is in town from the Coast.

•

R. Scott Ballantyne, president of The Ballantyne Co., Omaha, is in town.

•

Ed Lachman, president of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, is on vacation with his family.

•

John Smith Fleming has been appointed booker at Producers Releasing's Cincinnati branch.

•

John Cicero, Paramount advertising production manager here, will celebrate a birthday tomorrow.

MPA Delays Entry In 2 Festivals Abroad

Washington, July 21.—The Motion Picture Association is postponing any decision about participating in two European international film festivals until Eric Johnston, MPA president, and Gerald Mayer, MPA foreign relations manager, return from Europe, it was reported today. MPA will also await recommendations from its managers on the continent before reaching any decision about both festivals, to be held in Venice on Aug. 23 and at Cannes from Sept. 15-25.

$10,000,000 for 'Duel,' Says Kusell

"Duel in the Sun" has topped a $10,000,000 theatre gross in the United States to date, it was announced here yesterday by Milton S. Kusell, vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales for the Selznick Releasing Organization.

Steal WB Payroll

London, July 21.—Warner Brothers' payroll of 1,500 pounds ($6,000) was snatched here last week.

SAG Board Meets On IMPPA Proposal

Hollywood, July 21.—The board of the Screen Actors Guild tonight canvassed the proposal of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, for establishment of a separate category for talent working in pictures budgeted under $100,000. Both SAG and IMPPA officials declined comment pending d[illegible]rations.

The IMPPA proposal, it is understood, pertains to all pictures budgeted within the "C" group as defined by the Production Code Administration in charging producers for its services.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
GENE TIERNEY . REX HARRISON . GEORGE SANDERS
'THE GHOST & Mrs. MUIR'
A 20th Century-Fox Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
JAMES MASON
'ODD MAN OUT'
IN PERSON
HARRY BABBITT
CIRO RIMAC and his Band
Extra!
SUE RYAN
Plus Others

DORE SCHARY presents
Robert YOUNG Robert MITCHUM Robert RYAN
"CROSSFIRE"
An RKO RADIO PICTURE
Scientifically Air Conditioned
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.
RIVOLI
B'WAY AT 49TH STREET
Continuous Performances
Popular Prices

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
35TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE" in TECHNICOLOR
Starring BETTY HUTTON JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON "HOUR OF CHARM" ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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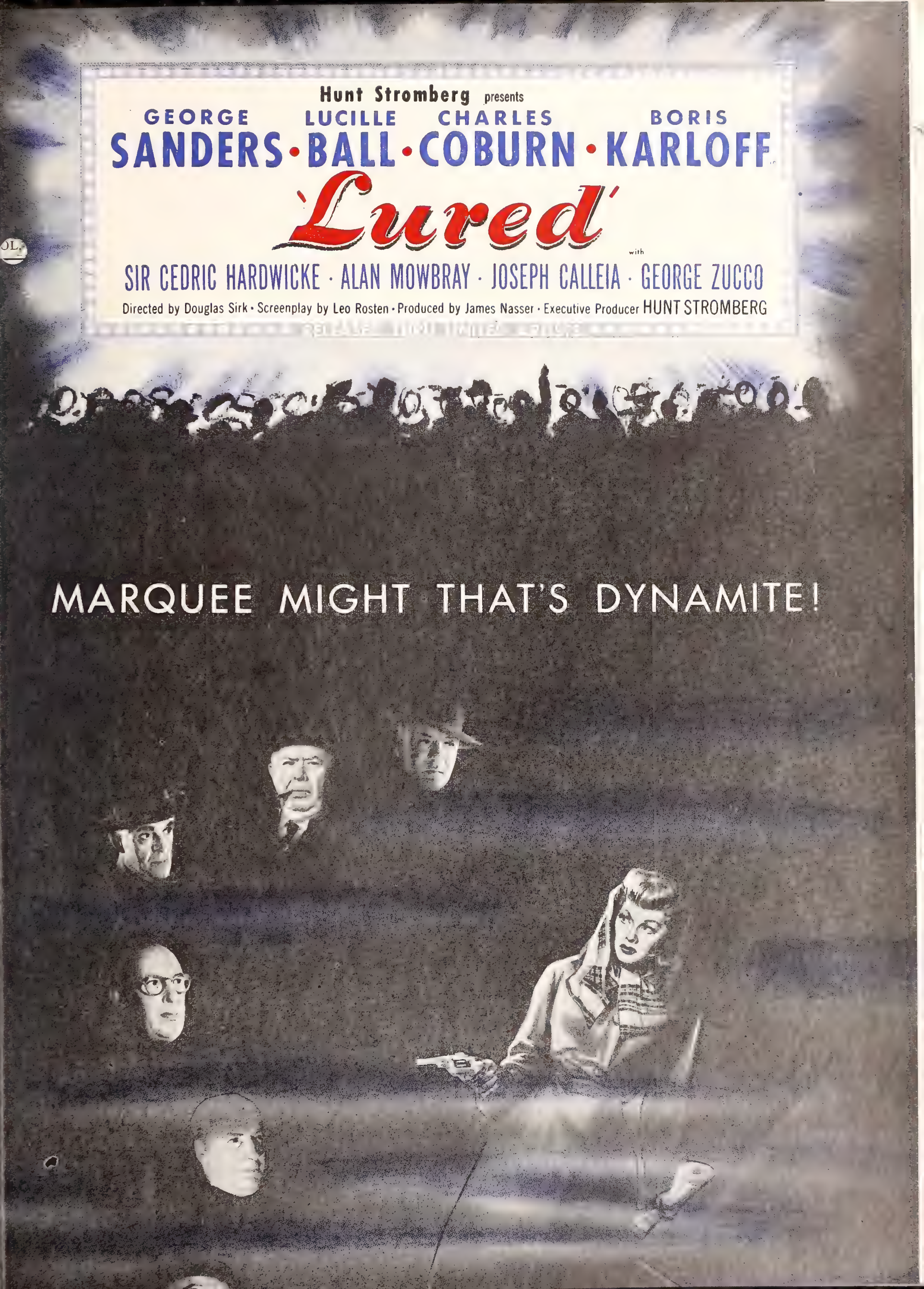

Hunt Stromberg presents

GEORGE SANDERS · LUCILLE BALL · CHARLES COBURN · BORIS KARLOFF

'Lured'

with

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE · ALAN MOWBRAY · JOSEPH CALLEIA · GEORGE ZUCCO

Directed by Douglas Sirk · Screenplay by Leo Rosten · Produced by James Nasser · Executive Producer HUNT STROMBERG

RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

MARQUEE MIGHT THAT'S DYNAMITE!

St. Paul Theatres to Fight 10% City Tax

St. Paul, July 21.—St. Paul independents and Minnesota Amusement Co. will join in an all-out fight in opposition to a proposed municipal 10 per cent admissions tax, with theatres planning to seek public support of their opposition, it was disclosed by Ben Berger, president, and Stan Kane, executive director of North Central Allied.

The city's theatres will not oppose the city council's proposed hike in annual license fees, "because we realize the city must raise some additional income," Berger said, "but we will leave nothing undone to defeat the discriminating ticket tax now under consideration."

Berger has called a meeting of St. Paul owners to discuss plans to "make the city council see the error of its proposal" and to map a campaign to take the fight to the public through newspaper ads and the city's screens.

All state theatre men will support the fight against the proposed St. Paul admissions tax, realizing that if the tax is adopted in the capital city it will spread throughout the area, Kane declared.

3% Cincinnati Tax Replaces State Levy

Cincinnati, July 21.—Theatres here will not benefit by the state vacating the admission tax field, the city solicitor's office having drafted an ordinance fixing the admission impost at three per cent, to conform to the levy assessed by the state.

The measure, which it is estimated will yield $300,000 annually, will be submitted to the City Council finance and law committee, on Aug. 4. Passage by the Council on Aug 6 is said to be practically assured.

House Group Holds Corp. Acquisition Bill

Washington, July 21.—A bill to prohibit corporations from acquiring physical assets of other companies for monopoly purposes was pigeonholed by the House rules committee today.

The bill, which had been favored by the House judiciary committee, was designed to close a loophole in the anti-trust laws, which bar acquisition of stock but do not cover physical assets. The rules committee action means that the bill is not likely to come before the House this year.

Rockwell, Publisher

Paul Hunter, president of *Liberty Magazine* yesterday named Homer Rockwell, former advertising director of that publication, as publisher of *Screenland, Silver Screen* and *Movie Show*. At one time, Hunter was publisher of this group of fan magazines.

New French Film Here

Herman Weinberg has completed the English sub-titles of "Club de Femmes," new French production starring Danielle Darrieux, and it will be released in the U. S. by Leo Cohen in the fall.

'Days of Wrath' in Sept.

"Days of Wrath," Danish production based on the novel, "Anna Pedersdotter," will be released in the United States by George J. Schaefer Associates, Inc., in September.

Reviews

"Her Husband's Affairs"

(*S. Sylvan Simon Prod.-Columbia*)

BEN HECHT and Charles Lederer co-authored the screenplay, Lucille Ball and Franchot Tone are the stars, Raphael Hakim produced, and S. Sylvan Simon directed. What they have come up with is a totally uninhibited madcap farce wherein everybody has a grand time in poking fun at the advertising business. It is entertainment well calculated to make the customers forget their cares for 86 minutes, and assuming that escapist entertainment is the order of the day it is a safe guess that when word gets around about this excursion into the realm of rollicking nonsence the cash registers will be ringing steadily. That the comedy reputations of the stars should win substantial audiences is another safe conclusion; and Larry Parks makes a surprise appearance in one sequence.

Tone plays the role of an advertising executive with a flare for getting tied up with wacky promotional schemes; Miss Ball is cast as his wife, a lass whose insistent helpfulness keeps him in hot water—he thinks. They want to take a trip to Bermuda, but he is always too busy. Once they were almost ready to sail when Mikhail Rasumny, who portrays a nutty inventor friend of Tone produced a salve that would remove hair upon application. So Tone sets about promoting the revolutionary new shaving method. But, it turns out the preparation grows hair a foot long overnight. Bearded men and an indignantly humiliated mustached lady go after Tone's scalp. The undaunted Tone, of course, next promotes the salve as a revolutionary hair restorer. Hardly has the audience a chance to recover from this surprise twist when it turns out that the state's governor's scalp has been turned into glass by the salve. There's more, all more or less in the same broad farcical vein, all good for many hearty laughs. Performances call for burlesquing all around in a cast which also includes Edward Everett Horton, Gene Lockhart, Nana Bryant, Jonathan Hale, Paul Stanton, Mabel Paige, and others.

Running time, 86 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Charles L. Franke

"The Burning Cross"

(*Screen Guild Productions*) *Hollywood, July* 21

WITHOUT thwacking its audience over the head to deliver its message, and without stentorian preachment, this one is the newest film designed to fight intolerance. It focuses a revealing light on one of the oldest and most infamous of the organized intolerance groups in the United States, the Ku Klux Klan.

In what might be a carefully and factually produced documentary, as well as a moving drama, it exposes the venal, murderous skulduggeries of the Ku Kluxers in the realistic manner of a March of Time film. It will provide both an entertaining and thoughtful 77 minutes in the theatre.

Minus names of any consequence in its big cast of players, "The Burning Cross" should be sold solidly in advance for what it is—an expose of the Klan, its menace to life and liberty.

Heading the cast is Hank Daniels, as a World War II veteran. While striving to readjust himself in his old hometown, he allows himself to be wangled into the Klan. It is only when, from behind a hood and a bed sheet, that he realizes and sees what he has let himself in for, that he is repelled and then rebels. When he sees a pal and a Negro friend brutally killed by night riders, homes of his neighbors burned and his own invalid father manhandled, he helps the state prosecutor hunt down the guilty ones. He nearly winds up at the end of a Klan rope himself before the Kluxer band is broken up, imprisoned or dispersed.

Virginia Patton, Raymond Bond, Betty Roadman, Dick Rich, Joe Fluellen, Walden Boyle, John Fostini, John Doucette, Tom Kennedy, Dick Bailey and Mady Norman are the other chief members of the cast deserving mention for their portrayals. Walter Colmes doubled in brass as producer and director, handling both jobs with praiseworthy efficiency, especially his directorial task. The original screenplay was written by Aubrey Wisberg.

Running time, 77 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Sept. 8.

W. J. McG.

"The Green Cockatoo"

(*Devonshire Films*)

PRODUCED in England in 1941 by William K. Howard, this unpretentious melodrama of London underworld life stars John Mills of "Great Expectations" fame. It is brought to the U. S. now for the first time by Devonshire, presumably because it is expected that Mills will develop into a marquee name here before long.

Cinematographically below par and for the most part slow paced, the film does have, however, some scattered moments of taut suspense, notably when Mills and another underworld character engage in a knife fight in the recesses of a blitzed tenement. Although the film bids fair to draw customers on the strength of Mills, it is not a picture that will boost his reputation in the U. S. Graham Greene wrote the scenario from his own original story, and William Cameron Menzies directed.

Plot centers around the London misadventures of a country girl, played by Rene Ray, who hardly arrives in town when she finds herself innocently involved in the murder of Mills' gambler brother. From there on in is a cat-and-mouse affair alternating between the real murderer and a vengeful Mills on the chasing end. Mills, of course, wins out and marries the girl.

Running time, 63 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, July 18.

C. L. F.

Year's 11th AAA Complaint Is Filed

Two more clearance complaints, bringing to 11 the number filed thus far this year with the American Arbitration Association, have been registered for arbitration with the Boston tribunal, it is reported by the AAA office here.

Alleging that present clearances are unreasonable, Marshall G. Carlton, operator of the Yarmouth Theatre, Yarmouth, Me., asks for a maximum first-run clearance of one-day, or such other relief as can be provided by the tribunal under the provisions of the consent decree, after the Nordica, Freeport, Me.; the Cumberland and Pastime, Brunswick, Me., and the Strand, Empire, State and Civic, Portland, Me. The first three houses now have 14 days over the Yarmouth; the others have 30 and 60 days.

Eisner Theatres, Inc., operator of the Cameo, Uxbridge, Mass., also alleges unreasonable clearances exist, and asks for a maximum first-run clearance of one day, or other relief, after the Stadium, Park and Bijou, Woonsocket, Mass.; Loew's State, Albee, Majestic, Carlton, Fay's, Strand and Metropolitan, Providence, and the State, at Milford, Mass. Fourteen days clearance now exists between these theatres and the Cameo.

Coast Stars Rally to Radio 'Prayer' Shows

Albany, N. Y., July 21.—*L'Osservatore Romano,* Vatican City daily newspaper, ran an editorial recently commending Father Patrick C. Peyton, of Albany, and his weekly "Family Theatre" Mutual network program on which film stars appear gratis in dramatizations pointing up the value of family prayer. The editorial, a translation of which has appeared in Albany's *The Evangelist* and several other U. S. publications, explains that Father Peyton had gone to Hollywood seeking the cooperation of "actors and actresses in order to bring practical realization to a project which he had in mind for the spread of family prayer."

Fifty stars from screen and stage pledged themselves to the apostolate, "along with an outstanding contingent of producers and scenario writers," the editorial said, adding that 300 Mutual stations broadcast the program.

Tent 19 Variety Benefit

Baltimore, July 21.—Plans for a benefit premiere here of "Variety Girl" will be made by officers of the local club, Tent No. 19, when William McCraw, national executive director of the organization, visits here Wednesday. Chief barker Fred C. Schanberger, Jr., of the Baltimore Tent states that the directorate of the local group will entertain McCraw with a luncheon and business meeting at the Lord Baltimore Hotel. Proceeds from the premiere will go into the "Heart Fund" of the Baltimore tent.

McCraw Arrives Today

William McCraw, executive director of International Variety Clubs, will arrive in New York today by plane on his national tour on behalf of the benefit campaign for the 30-city world premieres of Paramount's "Variety Girl," which is dedicated to the Variety Clubs.

ANOTHER GREAT DOUBLE-ACTION PACKAGE JOLTING THE NATION'S BOX OFFICES!

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Right on the heels of "Kit Carson" and "Last of the Mohicans"—that exhibitor-exhilarating power package-comes...

Alexandre Dumas' Amazing Adventure

"THE CORSICAN BROTHERS"

starring DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR.

and

"SOUTH OF PAGO PAGO"

with JON HALL and VICTOR McLAGLEN

Edward Small "Screen Masterpieces" re-released by Producers Releasing Corporation

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINATTI

"The Hucksters," with an expected 120 per cent over the house average, is giving RKO's Capitol one of the biggest weeks in a long time. Otherwise, plus and minus averages are evenly divided. Weekend weather was moderate. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22-25:

THE ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.) RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

BELLS OF SAN ANGELO (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **THE GUILTY (Mono.).** Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $10,000)

IVY (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $7,500)

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

SINGIN' IN THE CORN (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **FRENZY (Popular).** Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Hôt weather is hurting box-offices this week and a rainy Saturday was not any help. As a result, figures were hit somewhat. An exception, however, is "The Hucksters," which is drawing capacity crowds for its opening week here. "Dear Ruth" is doing well, too. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 24:

BOB, SON OF BATTLE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 7th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-45c-54c-56c: $5,000)

FUN ON A WEEKEND (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $23,500. (Average: $14,000)

SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (M-G-M) (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (3,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

THIS HAPPY BREED (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 7th week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $16,500)

ATLANTA

Business here is off in some houses and in others is better than average. Weather has been hot and dry. Estimated receipts for week ending July 24:

FIESTA (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross. $18,500. (Average: $19,000)

PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC) and I LOVE A KILLER (Kay)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-37c). Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,200)

THAT WAY WITH WOMEN (WB)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c). Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,700)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,900)

TORONTO

It was almost a British film week for Toronto first-run theatres with five of eight having a feature of British origin. Although receipts have been on the fair side, there were three holdovers while only one theatre had a double bill. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 25:

THE ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M) and UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400)

CHEYENNE (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,300)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $7,800)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,500)

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (U-I)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,800)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE YEARS BETWEEN (U-I)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE YEARS BETWEEN (U-I)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,800)

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Zane Grey, Inc., Formed

HOLLYWOOD, July 21. — Mrs. Zane Grey, widow of the late Western writer, is president of the newly-formed Zane Grey, Inc.; Romer Grey, son of the author, is first vice-president, and Stephen Slesinger, Gotham publishing house and syndicate head, is second vice-president.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page 1*)

cos, Charles Trenet and Ted Straeter's orchestra on the stage of the Capitol got off to a zooming start with a reported opening-day attendance of 23,500, said to be the highest in the 28-year history of the theatre. The show is on its way to a tremendous first week's gross of $104,000.

At the Strand, "Cry Wolf" with Freddie Martin's orchestra on the stage did a very laudable job with $34,000 grossed Friday through Sunday, a non-holiday weekend record, it was said. The first week's estimated total is put at a mammoth $68,000.

"They Won't Believe Me" is a sturdy newcomer at the Palace where $26,000 is in sight for an initial week. "Slave Girl" bowed in at two situations with moderately favorable results. The film is likely to provide the Winter Garden with about $23,000 while approximately $7,000 is seen for the Park for the week.

Holdovers for the most part are standing up well enough.

The Paramount's "Perils of Pauline" with Phil Spitalny's orchestra will conclude a second week tonight in the neighborhood of $75,000—handsome business—and continues. At the Roxy, "Moss Rose" with Olsen and Johnson in person is fair with $65,000 indicated for the third and final week, to be followed tomorrow by "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir" with a stage show at the Music Hall is headed for moderately attractive $115,000 in its fourth and final week, with "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" to replace it on Thursday.

"Best Years of Our Lives" probably will give the Astor a nice $23,000 in its 35th week. "Congorilla" and "Congo," a reissue combination at the Gotham, is good at $10,000 in a second week.

Sound business still is being chalked up by "Possessed" at the Hollywood which looks for $17,000 for the eighth week. "Green Cockatoo" gave the Rialto $5,000 in five days and will be followed today by "Apache Rose" and "Sioux City Sue."

"The Trouble with Women" is losing some ground at the Globe where the final five days of the run, two short of a complete second week, probably will mean $8,700 at the box-office. "Wyoming" is next, to open on Thursday. "Duel in the Sun" is fairly strong at the Victoria which probably will rake in $15,500 in the sixth and final week. "Gunfighters" will bow in Thursday.

"Repeat Performance" completed a third and final week at the Rivoli with a mediocre $10,000 and "Crossfire" will make its debut at the house today. A second week of "Copacabana" at the Broadway should bring a mild $9,000.

Book Rank Product

(*Continued from page 1*)

Lucas and Jenkins, Kincey, National Theatres, and many more, it is reported by William J. Heineman, vice-president of the Universal-Rank organization.

The extent to which the American circuits will be able to carry out their promise to Rank to give increased U. S. playing time to his product is said to depend on the grossing performances of the three now being shown. According to Heineman, the pictures are doing well.

House Group Asks Music Bill Tabling

WASHINGTON, July 21.—A bill opposed by the motion picture and radio industries, giving recording artists the right to copyright their own interpretations of musical pieces, was reported adversely today by the House judiciary committee. A sub-committee, which held hearings on the bill several weeks ago, reported the bill to the full committee with the recommendation that it be tabled indefinitely.

The full committee is expected to meet sometime this week to act on the recommendation. The sub-committee was unable to reach a decision on a companion bill—one giving recording artists and composers royalties on juke box performances. Presumably the sub-committee will consider the bill again during the next session of Congress.

Odlum Stock

(*Continued from page 1*)

stood to have gone on ice, thereby putting Rathvon in first position, currently at least. It is further understood that Odlum favors a sale to Rathvon in view of his record with RKO and he has expressed the desire that new ownership would be constituted on a basis which also would include Ned E. Depinet as a rewarding factor for his work as executive vice-president. In the event that Rathvon fails to arrange the required financing which would be in the neighborhood of $10,000,000 to $12,000,000, and a sale is made elsewhere, it is believed Odlum intends making as a stipulation the inclusion of both Rathvon and Depinet under whatever the new management may be.

Odlum's stock holdings in RKO carry management and control of the board of directors. Meanwhile, Rathvon acknowledges that negotiations are under way, but declines to comment on the amount of capital required to purchase the Odlum interest.

20th-Fox Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

the end of June. He said then that it could send percentage rentals as low as 15 per cent and not beyond 40 per cent for problem theatres and sub-subsequent runs.

The plan, as first announced, provided that exhibitors in the categories mentioned are to play not less than two and not more than five attractions on percentage while the rest of the company's program will be available on flat rental. Road shows, such as "Forever Amber" and "Captain from Castile," are outside the formula.

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A.T. &T. Withdraws Television Rates

American Telephone and Telegraph sclosed here yesterday that it had quested permission of the Federal ommunications Commission to with-raw tariffs previously filed covering ates for inter-city television trans-ission, which were to become effec-ve Aug. 1. The company said it was aki[illegible] this action to permit “further [illegible] of technical problems.”

In Washington, FCC officials indi-ated the company's request would be ranted.

The company said that “present ex-erimental television service over the New York-Washington coaxial cable which has been given by the company without charge to the television in-ustry will be continued until final ariffs are filed.”

No change is contemplated “in the asis of charges for pickup and other wire and radio facilities provided by Bell System telephone companies for pecial point-to-point transmission of television programs,” the company tated. It added that the FCC was sked to approve the withdrawal of the proposed rates “without prejudice o a subsequent filing of tariffs for this service by the company.”

The company had filed a proposed ate of $40 per mile per month for ransmission of television programs. The rate was filed with the Commis-ion on June 2, to be effective Aug. 1.

Subsequent to the filing of the co-axial cable rates, television represen-atives at an FCC conference ex-pressed extreme dissatisfaction with A. T. & T.'s proposed rates, saying hat they were inordinately high.

Multiple Antenna for Television Developed

WASHINGTON, July 21.—Mass use of television receivers in apartment houses moves closer to permanent so-ution with the sub-committee on apartment house television antennas of the Television Broadcasters Asso-ciation, Inc., revealing that industry engineers who recently studied a new master antenna system considered it a satisfactory solution to the multiple antenna problem in television.

Since early this year manufacturers have been working on devices which will feed a large number on television receivers in apartment houses and other multiple dwellings through a single master antenna system.

ITOA, Ascap

(*Continued from page 1*)

that an imposition of additional charges would be in “aggravation of plaintiffs' injury,” and declares intentions of testing its legality in advance of any imposition.

“Upon the receipt of such information we would initiate injunction proceedings against you within the framework of the presently pending litigation,” the law firm stated.

The plaintiffs in the case are for the most part members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association.

DEVONSHIRE FILMS presents
A Graham Greene Mystery Thriller
“THE GREEN COCKATOO”
starring
JOHN MILLS—ROBERT NEWTON
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3 Join Hubbell Firm In Television Posts

Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, former vice-president of RCA; Thomas H. Hutchinson, former National Broadcasting and RKO Television executive, and Philip Booth, former Columbia Broadcasting television director, have joined Richard W. Hubbell and Associates, a television consultant organization.

In their new posts, Goldsmith will concentrate on engineering and research problems and policy and management matters while continuing his regular consulting practice; Hutchinson will engage in program production and station operational problems, and Booth will work on developing program structures and personnel training.

Coast ‘Red’ Probe

(*Continued from page 1*)

Bureau of Investigation agents and are currently residents of Los Angeles.

Thomas stated that the double appointment is for the purpose of “intensifying this investigation,” which is expected to result in public hearings here opening on Sept. 23.

Earlier today the Un-American Activities Committee heard Walter Steele, chairman of the national security committee of the American Coalition of Patrioic Societies, describe in detail alleged Communist organizations in the nation. Steele cited *The Hollywood Independent*, published monthly by the Hollywood Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, as a “Communist-colored” periodical.

Reading from a 200-page statement. Steele told the committee that the Hollywood People's Educational Center is a “Red school of considerable size.” As associates of the school Steele mentioned screen-writers Robert Lees and Michael Simmons; directors Irving Pichel and Stanley Rubin, and screen producer Kenneth MacGowan.

Among the bigger Hollywood names listed by Steele for association with alleged Communist organizations were: Charles Chaplin, a supporter of the People's Radio Foundation; Ben Hecht, active with “Stage for Action”; and James Cain, director of the American Author's Authority.

Loew-Schlesinger

(*Continued from page 1*)

dent of the South African circuit. In some of the theatres M-G-M will have exclusive playing time under the deal.

The new pact covers not only present Schlesinger theatres, but also any that may be built during the next 10 years in the course of the circuit's long-planned theatre-building program. Enterprise Productions, as well as M-G-M pictures, are included in the deal, the basis of which was set by Morris Davis, M-G-M general manager for South Africa; Samuel N. Burger, Loew's International sales manager, and Charles Goldsmith, regional coordinator for the British Empire, during a recent trip to that territory.

Weiss Joins U-I

CLEVELAND, July 21.—Sam Weiss has resigned as Film Classics branch manager and is now with U-I working out of the Cleveland office as salesman. Robert Snyder, assistant to Albert Dezel, is temporarily in charge of the FC exchange.

TOA Group

(*Continued from page 1*)

ficers and directors of both groups but subject to ratification by the membership, actually would come into being at the convention upon such ratification. However, both ATA and MPTOA will remain in existence as separate entities for the purpose of pursuing their respective courses in the industry anti-trust case.

Indications are that Coyne, for ATA, and Herman Levy, general counsel for MPTOA, who are both members of the managing committee, will take the most active roles in preparing plans for an organizational structure. These would be subject to the approval of the interim board. comprising officers and directors of the two associations.

Coyne, Levy and possibly other members of the managing committee will attend tomorrow's meeting, or make contact with the session by telephone. Si Fabian and Ted R. Gamble president and board chairman, respectively, of ATA, are the only other members of the steering group who will be in town.

Coyne said yesterday the “best parts” of ATA's and MPTOA's constitutions probably will be considered in preparing a constitution which will be submitted to the consolidated convention, to be held in Washington D. C., about Sept. 20.

Other members of the managing committee, whose headquarters are out of town and thus making their attendance of many of the preliminary meetings unlikely, are Fred Wehrenberg, president of MPTOA; Lewen Pizor, MPTOA chairman; Harry Lowenstein. MPTOA secretary, and E. V. Richards, Jr., an ATA director.

Parliament Move

(*Continued from page 1*)

president of the Board of Trade, who will decide what form the new act will take,” says Fuller, “not members of Parliament.”

Interesting is the fact, disclosed in the CEA's General Purposes Committee Report on Entertainment Tax. that box-office grosses dropped 20 per cent in May and still more in June.

“Also, for the first time,” continues the report, “the first published accounts of one of the circuits, that of ABC, indicates that takings have passed their peak, expenses have risen very considerably and dividends for the particular year was maintained by a refund of an excess profit tax.”

The report recommends that the general council of the CEA make the first point in its new campaign for a cut in the entertainment tax, by making an extensive drive among members to collect necessary figures to support the case for a cut to the Treasury.

A point system has been devised so that CEA members will not have to divulge actual grosses. It is requested that all returns be made by October and then a full report will be submitted to the general council, as the starting point for the consideration of what exhibitors shall ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Cleveland Owners Meet

CLEVELAND, July 21.—The Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association will hold a general meeting on Thursday to discuss industry problems and to hear a report on the Ohio ITO convention to be given by Ernest Schwartz, president.

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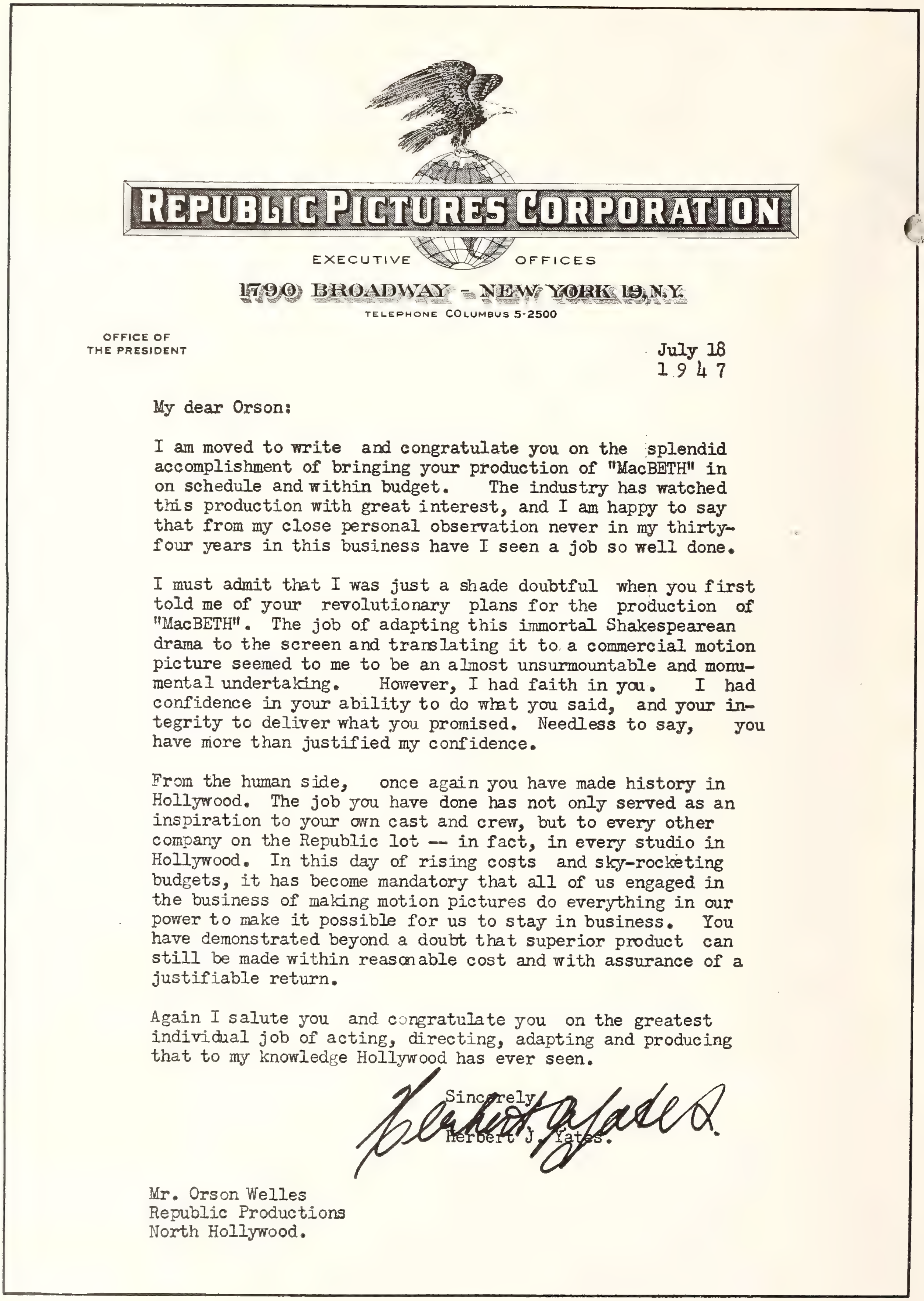

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THE PRESIDENT

July 18
1947

My dear Orson:

I am moved to write and congratulate you on the splendid accomplishment of bringing your production of "MacBETH" in on schedule and within budget. The industry has watched this production with great interest, and I am happy to say that from my close personal observation never in my thirty-four years in this business have I seen a job so well done.

I must admit that I was just a shade doubtful when you first told me of your revolutionary plans for the production of "MacBETH". The job of adapting this immortal Shakespearean drama to the screen and translating it to a commercial motion picture seemed to me to be an almost unsurmountable and monumental undertaking. However, I had faith in you. I had confidence in your ability to do what you said, and your integrity to deliver what you promised. Needless to say, you have more than justified my confidence.

From the human side, once again you have made history in Hollywood. The job you have done has not only served as an inspiration to your own cast and crew, but to every other company on the Republic lot -- in fact, in every studio in Hollywood. In this day of rising costs and sky-rocketing budgets, it has become mandatory that all of us engaged in the business of making motion pictures do everything in our power to make it possible for us to stay in business. You have demonstrated beyond a doubt that superior product can still be made within reasonable cost and with assurance of a justifiable return.

Again I salute you and congratulate you on the greatest individual job of acting, directing, adapting and producing that to my knowledge Hollywood has ever seen.

Sincerely,

Herbert J. Yates.

Mr. Orson Welles
Republic Productions
North Hollywood.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 16 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, JULY 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

abor, Taxes ighlights f Congress

hose Items Were Chief ilm Concern This Term

By J. A. OTTEN

Washington, July 22.—Labor d taxes headed the list of legisla- e and related topics affecting the dustry on which this 80th Con- ess acted during the session hich is scheduled to adjourn this eekend.

Over a Presidential veto, Congress passed the far-reaching Taft-Hartley law, banning the closed shop, outlawing jurisdictional strikes, and limiting a host of other union practices. It launched an investigation of James C. Petrillo and his American Federation of Musicians, and then broadened this to include an investigation of the Hollywood labor situation, slated to start on the West Coast on Aug. 4.

On the tax front, early in the ses- n it voted to continue indefinitely

(Continued on page 6)

pecial Admissions or Military May End

Washington, July 22.—A bill to minate tax-free admissions for embers of the Armed Forces on Dec. 1947, has been passed by the ouse. The Senate Finance Com- ttee also approved the measure mediately today, and committee airman Millikin indicated he hoped Senate action before adjournment.

In supporting the bill on ending x-free admissions, House Ways and eans Committee chairman Knutson

(Continued on page 6)

o Harmful Bills as isc. Session Ends

Washington, July 22.—The Wis- nsin legislature has adjourned thout passing any legislation damag- g to the industry, according to John yson, legislative assistant to Eric hnston, president of the Motion Pic- re Association.

With Alabama still in session, Wis-

(Continued on page 7)

Ceiling on Rep. Budgets

Hollywood, July 22.—All Republic producers are understood to have been told by Herbert J. Yates, company president, that all budgets must henceforth remain within the figures set for them and exceeding of them will not be countenanced.

Following a meeting with Republic producers, in which Yates laid down the new policy of making the conforming with budgets in all cases a "must," producer-director Alfred Santell obtained a cancellation of his contract for two pictures annually, the latter has disclosed.

With Yates now at Cheyenne for a week, an authoritative confirmation that Frank Borzage may likewise seek a release from his contract could not be obtained, although it is known that he intends to discuss the matter further with Yates.

Santell was preparing to make "The Sea of Darkness" as his next when the break came.

Film License Fees Net N.Y. $350,000

Albany, N. Y., July 22.—The film reviewing (censorship) division of New York State's Department of Education received $350,000 in motion picture license fees during the fiscal year ending March 31, an increase of

(Continued on page 7)

Smith Sets Tour of Field on 20th's Plan

Minneapolis, July 22.—Andrew W. Smith, 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, will take to the field, from his headquarters in New York, to outline to exhibitors the company's new selling policy applying to small town and subsequent exhibitors, meeting with independents here in two or three weeks. North Central Allied will hold a directors' meeting at the same time.

U. S. Will Relax British Loan Pact

Washington, July 22.—The U. S. has agreed to relax certain provisions of the British loan pact in an effort to stretch Britain's fast-dwindling U. S. loan balance, sources here reveal.

Withdrawals have been so heavy recently that officials fear the $3,750,000,000 loan will be consumed by the year's end. Concessions made in recent Anglo-American talks, according to reports here, would free Britain of the obligation to accord American goods the same treatment as Empire goods, allowing her to buy more products within the Empire. Film could be among them.

Say Johnston's Role in US Affairs Non-Political

'IA,' NATKE, ACT In Provisional Pact

London, July 22. — A provisional agreement providing reciprocal exchange of British and American theatrical union members between the United States and Great Britain has been concluded by the IATSE, the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, and the Association of Cine-Technicians, the latter two British unions.

Negotiators are now reporting to their respective executive councils and appropriate government departments. It is expected that the agreement will be finalized shortly.

While speculation runs high on Eric A. Johnston's position regarding public office, sources close to the Motion Picture Association president hold to the opinion that he has no political ambitions, at least for the present.

Johnston's name was tossed into the national spotlight last week when reports emanating from the Conference of Governors in Salt Lake City had it that he appeared to be a likely candidate for running mate of New York's Gov. Thomas E. Dewey in the forthcoming Presidential campaign. It was reported that, after his return from Europe, tomorrow, Johnston will spend a time with Dewey at the latter's home in Pawling, N. Y.

Film executives here feel that from Johnston's continued role of an unofficial spokesman for business in national affairs, the inference has been

(Continued on page 7)

RKO, Loew's Study Legal Angles of TOA

Kingsberg, Vogel Are Undecided on Joining

A study of the legal aspects of membership in the proposed Theatre Owners of America will be made by Loew's and RKO Theatres before either makes a decision on joining, according to Joseph R. Vogel, Loew's vice-president and general manager of theatre operations, and Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres.

Kingsberg said here yesterday that RKO always has endeavored to contribute to the success of exhibitor organizations, but whether membership in the TOA would be consistent with general company policy has yet to be determined.

Vogel reported that Loew's align-

(Continued on page 6)

Ascap Seat Tax 1st On Agenda of TOA

Theatre seat license fee increases contemplated by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will be among the first matters to be placed on the agenda of the proposed Theatre Owners of America if the merger of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theater Owners of America into the

(Continued on page 6)

Skouras Urges Aid To UJA Campaign

Urgent appeals to contribute to the United Jewish Appeal drive for $170,000,000 were made here yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and Attorney General Tom Clark at a UJA luncheon here at the Waldorf-Astoria.

Skouras, stressing the pressing need

(Continued on page 6)

3 Reviews Today

"Song of the Thin Man" and "The Red Stallion" are on page 4; "Green for Danger," on page 6. Key city gross reports are on page 7.

To Discuss Costs of New SAG Increases

HOLLYWOOD, July 22.—Y. Frank Freeman, chairman of the board of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, and E. J. Mannix, M-G-M studio executive, left here today by plane for New York to confer with company heads on the general studio labor situation, and increases in production costs expected to result from the wage increases agreed upon in negotiations with the Screen Actors Guild last week.

Studio executives are chary on venturing an estimate of the effect of the new SAG contract rates on production costs, pointing out that other changes beside wage minimums, such as changed working conditions and stipulated rest periods, will influence the totals.

It was also pointed out that the contract awaits approval by company principals and the SAG membership, making estimates premature.

Exchange Talks Are Set for Friday Here

Representatives of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, and Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia, will meet here on Friday in the office of Clarence Hill, 20th Century-Fox supervisor of exchange operations, to discuss the union's contract demands for more than 100 exchange employes. The union has asked for a 30 per cent or $10 weekly increase, a 35-hour week and improved grievance machinery.

Representing the companies will be Hill, for 20th-Fox; Charles O'Brien, Loew's; Harry Buckley, UA, and Hank Kaufman, Columbia. Otto Langer, secretary-treasurer, and a negotiating committee of 20 will represent the union.

Library of Congress To Retain Film File

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Despite the action of Congress in cutting out all funds for the Library of Congress film section, the Library does not propose to dispose of its film collection at this time, according to librarian Luther Evans.

Evans said he would assign a member of the library staff to keep the film, worth several million dollars, in "the best possible shape" until he could get a "complete policy decision from Congress."

"This was only a partial decision," Evans said. "They told us to cut out the film section, but not what to do with the film, or whether a similar job should be done by any other Government bureau."

UA Meet Hears Roach

BOSTON, July 22.—Sales policies concerning his forthcoming "Hal Roach Comedy Carnival" were discussed here today by Hal Roach at a United Artists New England regional sales meeting held at the Hotel Statler.

Personal Mention

STEVE BROIDY, president of Monogram and Allied Artists; EDWARD MOREY, vice-president and executive assistant to the president; HAROLD MIRISCH, vice-president; MOREY GOLDSTEIN, general sales manager; L. J. SCHLAIFER, director of sales; ARTHUR GREENBLATT, Eastern sales manager, and NAT FURST, New England district manager, have returned to New York from the companies' convention in Oklahoma City.

•

CHARLES REED JONES, special representative of JULES LEVEY, and MRS. JONES will leave here for a South American cruise on Aug. 8.

•

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, general manager of Loew Theatres, will leave here tomorrow on an automobile trip to Maine.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, has returned to the home office following a two-week Midwest tour.

•

JAMES V. O'GARA, Republic Eastern division manager, is back in New York following a trip to Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Cleveland.

•

ARTHUR KELLY, director on United Artists' board and representative of Charles Chaplin, is expected here today from the Coast.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, is in Boston and will return here at the weekend.

•

DORE SCHARY, RKO Radio production chief, has been selected by the American Nobel Anniversary Committee to speak at this year's Nobel dinner at the Hotel Astor, New York, on Dec. 10.

•

JEROME M. WEISFELDT, 20th Century-Fox representative in Central America, arrived here yesterday from Panama. He is the son of M. J. WEISFELDT of Eagle-Lion.

•

FREDERICK N. POLANGIN, Enterprise Eastern publicity director, has written a song, "Be An Angel," which has been published by Mills Music, Inc.

•

WILLIAM MCCRAW, executive director of Variety Clubs International, arrived in New York by plane yesterday from a field trip.

•

OSCAR MORGAN, Paramount short subjects sales manager, is due back here tomorrow from a visit to the company's branch in Jacksonville, Fla.

•

P. E. MCCOY, city manager in Augusta for Georgia Theatres, has been elected president of the Augusta Advertising Club.

•

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Monogram-Allied Artists board chairman, has delayed his return to the Coast from New York until tomorrow.

•

HERBERT VREELAND FECKE, advertising manager of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, has a birthday today.

Sears to Report to UA Board Next Week

United Artists board meeting to hear a report on company sales in England by Gradwell L. Sears, distribution vice-president, has been deferred until next week, due to lack of a quorum. The session originally was scheduled for yesterday, put off to tomorrow and now is set for next week. Directors Arthur Kelly and Arnold Grant both are on the Coast and Charles Schwartz is vacationing at Lake Placid, N. Y.; all will come in for the meeting. Sears returned from London last weekend.

Stoller Named UA Minneapolis Chief

Edward J. Stoller has been appointed branch manager of the United Artists Minneapolis exchange, it was disclosed here yesterday by J. J. Unger, general sales manager.

Stoller, who joined UA in Dec., 1930, as office manager in Minneapolis, succeeds Ralph Cramblet, promoted recently to Midwestern district manager.

Donald Nelson Ill, In Hospital Here

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and former chief of the War Production Board, has entered French Hospital here. Although reports had it that Nelson had suffered a stroke, a hospital attendant would not comment on the nature of his illness other than to say that Nelson is "under observation."

Allied Committee to Map Convention

WASHINGTON, July 22.—The executive committee of Allied will meet here July 29-30 to draw up plans for the 1947 national convention.

Originally slated for the Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, on Nov. 10-12, the convention has been postponed until Dec. 1-3 in order to move into the larger Schroeder Hotel there.

Gulf ATO Board Will Meet Tuesday

NEW ORLEANS, July 22.—A special meeting of the board of directors of the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States has been called for Tuesday, July 29, here, it was announced today by M. J. Artigues, general manager of the group.

Newsreel Parade

THE globe-roving cameras of the newsreels provide reports on elections in India, quintuplets in Argentina, Bastille Day in Paris, among other subjects from abroad, and President Truman in a tribute to handicapped veterans. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 94—[illegible]dia frontier votes to join Pakistan in c[illegible]y's division. Navy tests methods of escape from submarines. Argentine quintuplets. Beach fashions for men. Mormons re-enact trek to Salt Lake City of 100 years ago. Stymie wins Gold Cup horse race in New York. Truman presents bowling awards to crippled veterans.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 292—Empire Gold Cup horse race. Truman honors disabled veterans. Marshall urges aid for displaced persons of Europe. Argentine quintuplets. Submarine crew tests means of escape. Beach fashions for men.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 97—Truman honors crippled veterans. Argentine quintuplets. Strikers picket Brooklyn bank. Ethiopian troops in maneuvers. Peron stages show for Chileans. Stymie wins Gold Cup race.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 58—Marshall urges aid for Europe's displaced persons. French celebrate Bastille Day in Paris. Argentine quintuplets. New huge plane in test flight. Truman honors paralyzed veterans. Stymie wins Gold Cup race.

Commons is Refused US-UK Film Figures

LONDON, July 22.—Declaring it is contrary to practice to reveal by Parliamentary answer financial arrangements of particular individuals and companies, Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton today declined to furnish information to House of Commons questioners seeking facts and figures on various international film industry operations.

Questions were: What dollar expenditure has been licensed to British film companies for building purposes or for investing in theatres abroad? What is the estimated future return therefrom? What dollar allowance has been granted British companies in exchange deals for stars, directors and technicians between Britain and the U. S.? What dollars have been spent on exploiting British films in America.

Members of the opposition protested Dalton's refusal to disclose information at a time when "we are scraping the barrel for dollars."

200 Norway Houses; Half City-Owned

WASHINGTON, July 22.—There are now almost 200 theatres operating in Norway, according to a report issued by the Department of Commerce.

Of these, 98 are municipally owned theatres and are members of the National Association of Municipal Motion Picture Theatres, while 76 are privately owned.

Oslo has 10 first run theatres and eight second run houses, the report said. All give two or three performances daily. All theatres in the country are reported to be equipped for sound, although none is air-conditioned.

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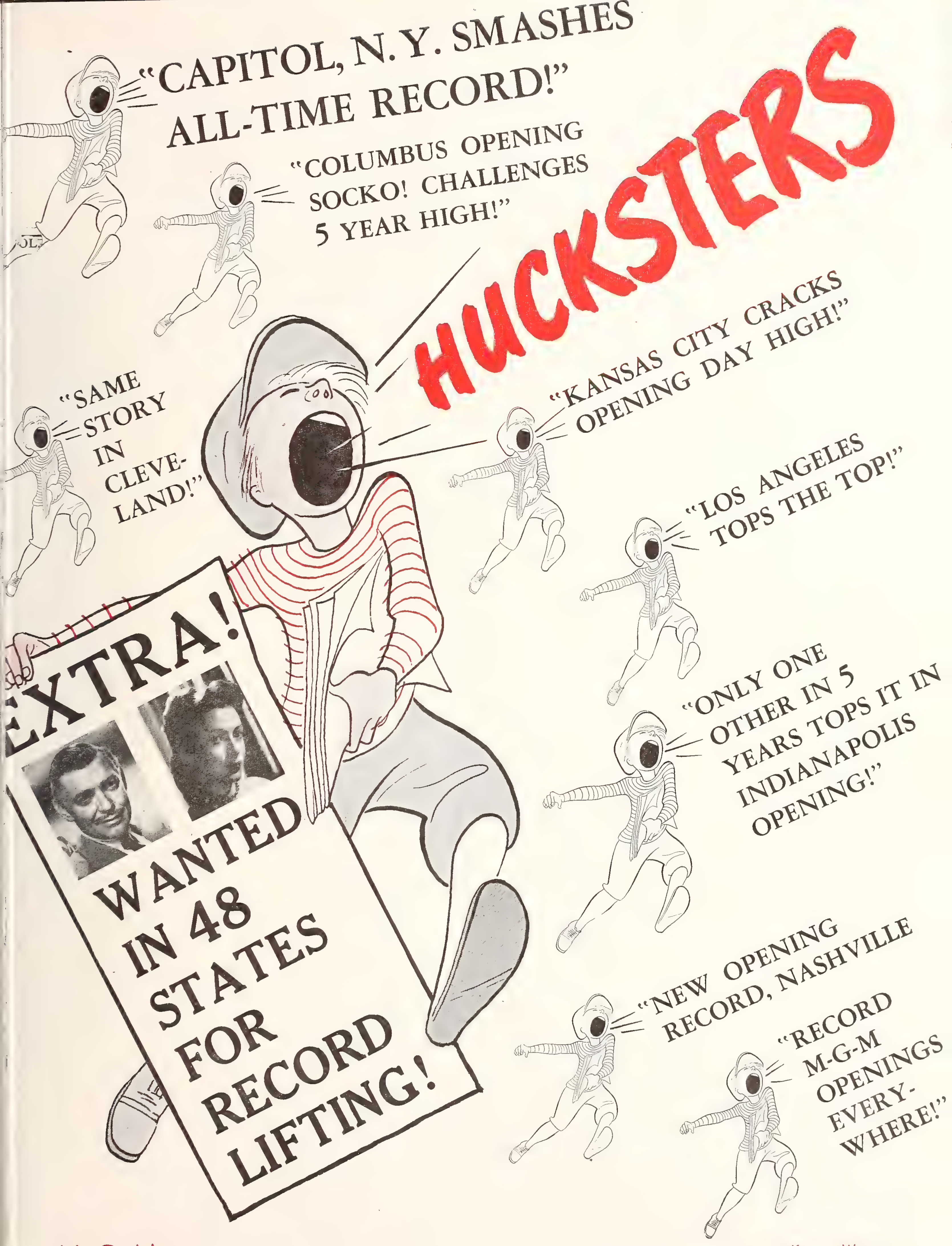
"CAPITOL, N. Y. SMASHES ALL-TIME RECORD!"
"COLUMBUS OPENING SOCKO! CHALLENGES 5 YEAR HIGH!"
HUCKSTERS
"SAME STORY IN CLEVELAND!"
"KANSAS CITY CRACKS OPENING DAY HIGH!"
"LOS ANGELES TOPS THE TOP!"
EXTRA!
WANTED IN 48 STATES FOR RECORD LIFTING!
"ONLY ONE OTHER IN 5 YEARS TOPS IT IN INDIANAPOLIS OPENING!"
"NEW OPENING RECORD, NASHVILLE"
"RECORD M-G-M OPENINGS EVERYWHERE!"

M-G-M presents CLARK GABLE • DEBORAH KERR • Sydney Greenstreet • Adolphe Menjou • Ava Gardner • Keenan Wynn
Edward Arnold in "THE HUCKSTERS" • Screen Play by Luther Davis • Adaptation by Edward Chodorov and George Wells
Based on the Novel by Frederic Wakeman • Directed by JACK CONWAY • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR.

'Wyoming' Premiere In Cheyenne Today

CHEYENNE, Wyo., July 22.—The 51st annual "Frontier Days" celebration will be given added impetus by the world premiere of Republic's "Wyoming," starring William Elliott, Vera Ralston and John Carroll, at the Paramount and Lincoln Theatres here tomorrow.

With 70,000 Western-garbed visitors occupying every hotel and motel room within a radius of 50 miles, official festivities got under way today with the arrival of a special train from Denver bearing Elliott, Miss Ralston, Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers, and a party of theatre and studio executives, including Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic; William Saal, his executive assistant; Mort Goodman, publicity director; Charles P. Skouras, president of Fox West Coast Theatres; F. H. ("Rick") Ricketson, president of Fox Inter-Mountain Theatres; Ray Davis, supervisor of the Northern division of Fox I-M.

Following the premiere, "Wyoming" will have 83 day-and-date engagements in the Rocky Mountain area, including Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, Utah and New Mexico.

Video Price Scale Now Cancelled Out

WASHINGTON, July 22.—The American Telephone and Telegraph Co. has been granted special permission to cancel its proposed tariffs for inter-city television transmission by coaxial cable, the Federal Communications Commission declared today.

A. T. and T. asked yesterday that permission be given for the company to withdraw its rate of $40 per mile per month, effective Aug. 1.

FCC officials could give no specific reason why A. T. and T. had requested its proposed tariffs be cancelled. They indicated, however, the withdrawal might be due to the strenuous objections voiced by television broadcasters to the proposed tariffs, as well as the proposals made recently by several television broadcasters for setting up inter-city relay facilities.

To Give Radios to Hospitalized Vets

HOLLYWOOD, July 22.—A group of 60 prominent personalities, headed by Jack Benny, have announced plans to provide thousands of bedside and pillow-type radio receiving sets to hospitalized ex-servicemen throughout the U. S. The project will be conducted by the Hospitalized Veterans National Radio Foundation, now in the process of formation.

With Benny as president, founders include: Eddie Cantor, Perry Como, Herbert Marshall, Joseph Cotten, Art Linkletter, Sophie Tucker, Larry Adler, Walter Pidgeon, Rudy Vallee, Louis Bromfield and Sammy Kaye. The executive committee comprises: Matthew J. Levitt, A. Bradley Eben, Major E. H. Williams and Melvin A. Krauss.

Television Receiver Set Record of 11,484

WASHINGTON, July 22.—The Radio Manufacturers Association announces that its member companies produced 11,484 television receivers in June, a new record. This brought the total for the first six months of 1947 to 46,389, compared with 6,476 in all of 1946.

Reviews

"Song of the Thin Man"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

WILLIAM POWELL and Myrna Loy are back again as the sleuthing Nick and Nora Charles. It is two years or so since their previous "Thin Man" adventure hit the screen, and, relying on the old adage about absence making the heart grow fonder, we bet that this one will make plenty of box-office music.

Nat Perrin's production is smoothly tailored, attractively mounted, splendidly directed by Edward Buzzell, and sparkles with good writing. Perrin and Steve Fisher collaborated on the screenplay, to which additional dialogue was contributed by James O'Hanlon and Harry Crane. The dialogue is freighted with sharp cracks and subtle repartee, delivered with inimitable *savoir-faire* by Powell and Miss Loy and aimed right at an audience's funnybone. But make way for Keenan Wynn who almost steals the picture as an "in-the-groove" "hot-jazz" musician who knows no language but the language of "jive" and who makes a rather incomprehensible ally for Nick and Nora as they set out to discover who killed a universally-despised bandleader, played by Philip Reed.

A lot of people could have killed the bandleader—and for a number of different reasons. There is aristocratic Ralph Morgan; his daughter, Jayne Meadows, who loves a notorious gambler, Bruce Cowling, also a suspect; and there is the band's ill-fated singer, Gloria Graham, also a mentally-broken clarinetist-composer, played by Don Taylor, both of whom turn in some particularly commendable acting. Other suspects are socialite Patricia Morison and her husband, Leon Ames. Shrewd Nick comes through with the solution, of course, but before the fadeout he and Nora have to attend many a "jam session" and many a narrow escape.

Young Dean Stockwell does nicely in the role of Nick Charles, Jr., and Asta, the pup, is on hand to charm the audience with his antics. The murder's solution is satisfying, but far from novel in the annals of detective fiction. Blended into the proceedings is a nice tune by Herb Magidson and Ben Oakland, entitled, "You're Not So Easy to Forget." The original story was written by Stanley Roberts, based on the characters created by Dashiell Hammett.

Running time, 86 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Red Stallion"

(*Eagle-Lion*)

HERE is a thoroughly pleasing picture particularly well geared for family trade. Rank-and-file audiences will find a good deal of satisfaction in this clean-cut yarn about a boy and his horse and their minor-scale adventures in the mountain country of the West.

Ted Donaldson is the youngster who finds the colt, takes possession and raises him to become the stallion known as "Red." As he does this, hard times fall on Jane Darwell, his grandmother, who faces sale of her ranch at auction in order to meet unpaid debts. This gives Ted the idea of developing his equine pal into a race horse which he does, with the aid of story convenience, in about two weeks. A neighboring stable buys the animal and then proceeds to write in Ted as partner. This proves the mortgage lifter on the ranch and also keeps Ted and "Red" a continuing enterprise.

"The Red Stallion," obviously, then, is a happy yarn all the way. Never strong on story, and certainly offering nothing even faintly removed from the conventional, nevertheless it has been handled nicely in point of mood and tempo by director Lesley Selander, for producer Ben Stoloff. One of the assets is a remarkably clever dog which travels under the name of Daisy and, in many spots, practically wraps up the picture. Another is the color photography, in Cinecolor, which reveals nice results in most outdoor shots but which leaves room for improvement on the interiors. Principal thrill of the film is a fight between the stallion and a marauding bear which is beaten to death under "Red's" hooves.

The incidental romantic line is lightly stressed by Robert Paige and Noreen Nash. Robert W. Kent and Crane Wilbur wrote this sentimental original.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 13.

R.K.

Kameny Associates to Handle Herald Ads

Seymour Kameny Associates, New York, has been appointed to handle advertising and public relations for Herald Pictures, Inc. Nat Kameny is account executive.

Herald Pictures, Negro motion picture company, has plans for a minimum of six features a year.

$22,000 'Earth' Benefit

LONDON, July 22. — About $22,000 was grossed by the Gaumont Theatre last evening with the British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association benefit premiere of Columbia's "Down to Earth." Rita Hayworth, who was present at the premiere, was made a patroness of the Association.

'Orleans' in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, July 22.—For the first time in local show business, a motion picture will have a day-and-date opening in a downtown first-run and a Negro first-run, when "New Orleans," Jules Levey-United Artists film, opens at the Hippodrome and Harlem theatres on Thursday. Charles Reed Jones, special representative for Levey, is here for the openings.

'Narcissus' Opens Aug. 13

Universal - International's "Black Narcissus," produced by J. Arthur Rank, will have its American premiere on Aug. 13 at the Fulton Theatre, here, which will be converted from a stageplay theatre to a film house operating on a continuous run, popular price policy.

Lefkowich Winner of Variety Tournament

CLEVELAND, July 22.—Some 250 attended the banquet concluding the annual Variety Club golf tournament yesterday at Beechmont Country Club. Bert Lefkowich of the Community Circuit emerged 1947 local industry champion with a low score of 81, and Bob Snyder of Film Classics won "distinction" with a high of 162. M. B. Horowitz, general manager of the Washington Circuit, won the C[illegible]tta Pool.

In appreciation of his work to reorganize the club as chief barker, Nat Wolf, general chairman of the tournament, presented a wrist watch to Harry Schreiber, who has since been transferred to Columbus as RKO city manager.

Albany Variety Club To Receive $20,000

ALBANY, N. Y., July 22.—The local Variety Club will receive a minimum of $20,000 for permitting the use of its name in connection with the "Better Homes Exposition" to be staged here in late October. Sponsors of the affair are *The Knickerbocker News* and the Women's City Club.

Jerry Salisbury, managing editor of *The News,* who has been active in helping Variety, made the offer to C. S. Smakwitz, former chief barker and assistant zone manager for Warner, and the club's directorate approved. The newspaper will inform the public that the money will go into the club's Heart Fund.

Phila. Variety Luncheon

PHILADELPHIA, July 22.—William McCraw, executive director of Variety Clubs International, was the guest today of Philadelphia Variety Club Tent No. 13 at a luncheon in the Bellevue Stratford Hotel. McCraw is making a tour in behalf of Paramount's picture, "Variety Girl," one day's receipts of which will go to Variety Clubs' Heart Fund. Preview date for this city is Aug. 27.

Variety Drive in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, July 22.—The Variety Club of Mexico plans to launch a "March of Dimes" drive in this country with a collection from patrons of Mexico's 1,423 film theatres. Luis R. Montes, chief barker, said he expects to add more than $200,000 to the Mexican drive against infantile paralysis.

Douglas Quits RKO

SEATTLE, July 22. — Jack Douglas has resigned as exploitation representative for RKO Radio in the Pacific Northwest. Ed Lamb, the company's branch manager in Seattle, has made arrangements with Keith Bane of Portland and Lloyd Muir of Vancouver, B. C., to take over Douglas's post temporarily until a permanent representative can be appointed.

New WB Reissue Bill

Another combination reissue bill has been set for release by Warner Brothers next month. The pictures are: "Marked Woman," starring Bette Davis and Humphrey Bogart, and "Dust Be My Destiny," with John Garfield and Priscilla Lane. For the New York Strand engagement, that house will drop its customary "in person" show.

THE Hollywood REPORTER

VOL.

TWENTY MILLIONS FOR 'VERDOUX'

TRADEVIEWS

ON A WHIRLWIND of controversy Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" prepares to meet its waiting millions n October. With but a six-week debut howing in New York as a teaser inroduction, the Chaplin production has reated the most sensational controversy in the history of show business.

When "Verdoux" hits its general elease on October 15th exhibitors can throw their hats into the air, open wide the cash tills, preparatory to the greatest avalanche of boxoffice gold of he year.

Chaplin, with unerring aim, has in 'Monsieur Verdoux" answered the prayers of exhibitors and the public. And the time is now at hand for a 'Verdoux" to beat recession, or the hreat of recession, at the boxoffice.

Much has been written of the revoutionary entertainment that is dynamically packaged in "Verdoux." You have heard that it is jolting, shocking, haunting — "the most unusual enterainment ever filmed." You know by now that in "Verdoux" Chaplin, for he first time, abandons his little tramp character to play Monsieur Verdoux, he diabolical, charming and modern French Bluebeard.

All of this is true. But there is more —much more to tell.

"Monsieur Verdoux" is a comedy, he greatest of all comedies because it s interlaced with a satirical thrust that might only be found in the pages of Dean Jonathan Swift. It is a new kind of comedy, with a new kind of laughter—some of it bordering on hysteria. And yet with its original humor there are the priceless moments of the Chaplin that has dominated comedy since he birth of the screen.

"Monsieur Verdoux" presents the most fascinating and haunting romance ever screened. No one has ever been able to come near the Chaplin formula. He holds a unique copyright on his ype of love story—a love story that hurts, that frightens, that stays with you as a haunting lingering memory.

There is beauty and there is pathos; here is laughter and there are tears—the great and infallible ingredients which have made Chaplin the master of screen story-telling.

Chaplin is supported by the hilarious Martha Raye, the luscious Marilyn Nash (Chaplin's newest discovery), the tender Mady Correll, the frustrated Isobel Elsom, the mellow Robert Lewis and he love-hungry Barbara Slater.

Modern Bluebeard Shocker To Out-Gross All Chaplin Pictures, Says D.J. McNerney

San Francisco.—Charles Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" will top a twenty million dollar gross within one year, D. J. McNerney, one of the nation's leading showmen and executive vice-president of the Blumenfeld chain of theatres, predicted today.

"Chaplin has produced a box-office gold mine for the exhibitors and an entertainment feast for the public," declared McNerney, whose chain of forty leading theatres also has a partnership with United Artists.

" 'Monsieur Verdoux' will out-gross anything Chaplin has ever done—and that goes for 'The Dictator' which took in more than fifteen million dollars. 'Verdoux' will easily pull in twenty million within a year and it wouldn't surprise me at all if 'Verdoux' turns out to be the biggest grosser of any picture as it is that rare kind of production that can easily be re-issued for the next ten years."

McNerney said the Chaplin production had been booked solid in their forty theatres.

Winchell, Time, Cite Chaplin Controversy

New York.—Words of extravagant praise and violent controversy swept the nation as "Monsieur Verdoux" closed its pre-release debut here.

Walter Winchell told his twenty-five million readers and Time Magazine advised its five million, that Chaplin's "Verdoux" is big-time news.

Wrote Winchell: "James Agee has written a monumental piece for The Nation in praise of Chaplin's 'Mons. Verdoux.' Agee thinks the film 'is one of the great works of our time.' "

Time went to town with three columns, hailed "Verdoux" as "the most notable film in years—the most fascinating" and described Chaplin's portrayal of the modern French Bluebeard as "one of the most beautiful single performances ever put on film."

Summarized Time: "The film is a daring individual gesture, dared in an era when such acts are rare. He has replaced his beloved sure-fire tramp with an equally original character. The set pieces of pure slapstick are as skilled and delightful and as psychologically penetrating as any Chaplin has ever contrived."

'Charm, Wit, Spice Verdoux'—Scheuer

Lauding Charles Chaplin as "a man of rare personal charm, magnetism and wit," Famed Writer and Critic Phillip K. Scheuer told fifteen million readers, through the pages of Collier's Magazine, that the star "turns on all three full force as Monsieur Verdoux."

Wheeler Dryden Back

Wheeler Dryden, associate director on "Verdoux," returned yesterday from Big Bear-ing.

Critics Still Trail In Dust With Chaplin Hailed As Master

In a colossal eulogy of Charles Chaplin and his "Monsieur Verdoux," Jimmie Tarantino, famed trade magazine editor and critic, over this past weekend on page one of the Hollywood Nite Life, wrote in part:

"But Chaplin is not one of the Screen Greats—or, as we believe—the Screen's Greatest—for nothing.

"Since celluloid first flickered at the Nickelodeons, Chaplin has shown the way. Today, with 'Monsieur Verdoux,' Chaplin irrevocably proves again he stands at the head of the entertainment parade.

"In his dust of a score of years ago trail the critics who are still trying to master his technique, probe his subtleties, analyze his entertainment for the world's millions.

"In 'Monsieur Verdoux,' the unmatched genius of Chaplin has started something that will be remembered with acclaim, awe, reverence and controversy as long as motion pictures are made!"

Exhibitors Get Set For Chaplin Splash

A few minutes after you have finished reading this extraordinary page, 20,000 of them will be in the airmail to that number of exhibitors who are awaiting the October 15th signal to unleash Chaplin's greatest picture.

'Verdoux' Tops British Rating In All Empire Press

British press, covering the Empire, raised its typographical voice as one to cheer Charles Chaplin as the modern French Bluebeard in "Monsieur Verdoux."

Stuart Gelder, London News-Chronicle, wrote in part: "Likely to be the first convincing answer out of Hollywood to Sir Stafford Cripp's demand for better productions."

Brighton English Argus: "Epochal. . . . one of his inimitable blends of slapstick, pathos and satire."

P. H. Powell, in London Star: "Chaplin as Bluebeard just as funny. Everyone will be relieved to know that although we have here Chaplin, the tragedian, the murderer in kid gloves, he is also in a thousand little delicious touches the comedian in baggy trousers. He cannot do anything crude."

London Evening News: " 'Monsieur Verdoux' brought cheers."

Picturegoer: "Chaplin is marvelous. The story is so thickly peppered with comedy that one has to hold tight to one's seat to keep from rolling."

'Verdoux' Great Says Sage; Must Be Seen Many Times

Harold Clurman, famed author, in Tomorrow Magazine, wrote in part of "Verdoux":

"Charles Chaplin's 'Monsieur Verdoux' is one of the most fascinating documents of our day. The picture is great! Chaplin does not escape the world through his comic disguise; he faces it. That is why he is an artist of singular force. Those who do not quite decipher his meaning or who do not wish to fathom it because it disturbs them, would do well to listen and attend again and again."

Mady Correll 'Skinned'

Mady Correll, featured in "Verdoux," will play the Tallulah Bankhead role in the Lake Tapaco Players production, "Skin of Our Teeth."

CHARLES CHAPLIN HYSTERICAL LAUGHTER HAUNTING ROMANCE SHOCKING DRAMA **'MONSIEUR VERDOUX'**

(Advertisement)

Labor, Taxes

(Continued from page 1)

the wartime excise tax rates, including the 20 per cent admission tax, and then made two attempts to cut income taxes. Both of the latter were blocked by Presidential vetos, which could not be overriden.

The House Ways and Means Committee decided on a comprehensive over-hauling of the entire tax structure during the next session, and to this end carried on extensive hearings, at which film industry spokesmen pleaded for a lowering of the admission tax rate and for other tax relief.

Cowdin Among House Unit Aides

An advisory group named to aid the House Committee in its work included J. Cheever Cowdin, Universal board chairman, who was given the job of preparing recommendations to eliminate double taxation of corporate dividends.

In a bill extending rent controls, Congress voted to end all curbs on commercial construction with one exception, allowing the Office of the Housing Expediter to continue to require a permit for theatre and other amusement and recreational construction. This power will last through 1947.

The industry was also affected by several of the appropriation bills passed by Congress. One of these killed the Library of Congress film section. House-Senate conferees are still trying at this 11th hour to decide whether or not to continue the Office of Government Reports and its film liaison section. The film section in the State Department's overseas information program was cut to a shoe-string budget, and so were the film sections in most other Federal departments and agencies. Anti-trust funds, however, were increased.

Mundt Bill Still in Senate

The Mundt bill, to authorize the State Department's overseas information program, passed the House and won approval of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. It was not expected, however, that it would pass the Senate before adjournment. The House version provides for an 11-man committee, including a film representative, to supervise the program. The bill reported by the Senate committee substitutes an investigation by a joint Congressional committee.

Duplicate bills introduced in the House by Rep. Mundt and in the Senate by Sen. Aiken, providing $2,225,000 for the U. S. Office of Education to procure and distribute films on Americanism to schools and adult civic groups, will probably come up for hearings and action next year.

Furore on Censorship

A censorship row, touched off by a bill of Rep. Rankin's to bar "Duel in the Sun" in the District of Columbia, ended up in a House District sub-committee.

A bill which was the subject of extensive hearings this session, is the White bill, to reorganize the Federal Communications Commission and revise the communications laws. One provision would end the FCC's power to set a limit on the number of FM or television stations that may be owned by one person or company.

The House Rules Committee apparently has blocked consideration of a bill approved by the House Judiciary Committee to close a loophole in the anti-trust laws and bar any company from acquiring the physical assets of another company for monopoly purposes. And a House Judiciary subcommittee adversely reported a bill to allow recording artists to copyright particular performances or interpretations.

Hearings were a favorite past-time on Capitol Hill this session.

The House Ways and Means Committee heard many witnesses, including Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, plead for a continuation of the reciprocal trade program. The House Committee on Un-American Activities carried on an investigation of Communism in Hollywood. The House Labor Committee had its day on Petrillo. Both the Un-American and labor committee hearings will go on during the summer and fall.

Dietz Shares Wealth—With Confederate $$$

HOWARD DIETZ, who recently dabbled in real estate by way of a company known as The Sea of Grass Land Project, now gets even closer to the hard facts of banking and finance with a new flyer into what he calls the share-the-wealth movement, M-G-M style.

"We are sending you a few Confederate dollars which is still valid currency in a small Missouri town called Rosy Ridge" he informs. "Rosy Ridge hasn't changed since befo the Civil Wo, even though a damnyankee called Van Johnson came there and played a banjo into the heart of the finest flower of all Missoura womanhood. Indeed his cotin is known as the romance of Rosy Ridge."

As for the money, Historian Dietz explains, "Rosy Ridge descendants and heirs still pass the stuff on to each other as legal tender and, if the damnyankee won't take it, why suh, they just shoot the paying teller. They're not entirely oblivious to what goes on in the foreign North. They have a certain respect for the legitimate dollar.

"But the way things are going makes Rosy Ridgers hold on to their Confederate folding money with a smile that has been called wry. The fiscal status quo makes Rosy Ridge known as the frozen South."

Getting back to his land project, Dietz suggests; "If you are fixin' to settle snugly in the desert you can visualize your old age with plenty of everything in life that's free—except water—and simply rolling in Confederate dough."

Review

"Green for Danger"

(Rank-Eagle-Lion)

ALL that an artist can do to breathe vivid, imaginative life into a role is accomplished by Alastair Sim in his delightful performance as a Scotland Yard detective inspector in this J. Arthur Rank presentation. The mystery-drama, although conventional in plot framework, is lifted away above its category by excellent all-around acting, clever dialogue and adroit direction. The film will go a long way towards quickening the tastes of American customers for British product.

Harking back to the buzz-bomb days of the war, the film uses a hospital area as its locale. When Sim enters the scene, two murders have already been committed. Suspicion focuses on five persons, a surgeon, an anaesthetist, and three nurses. One definitely is the murderer; the tense and baffling question is who. As Sim starts assembling information and interpreting clues, he proves that he also is a good judge of human nature, knows his poetry, and has an appreciative ear for the gentle ironies of life. Despite Sim's vigilance, however, another murder almost occurs. A clever strategem, suspensefully executed, reveals the murderer.

The film is so refreshingly made and balanced, one easily forgives an occasional "red herring" used to divert suspicion. Others in the cast are Sally Gray, Rosamund John and Trevor Howard, the latter known here for his role as doctor in "Brief Encounter." An Individual Picture, it was produced by Frank Launder and Sidney Gilliat, and directed by the latter. Gilliat also collaborated on the screenplay with Claude Guerney. Reviewing the picture from London in MOTION PICTURE DAILY of January 3, 1947, Peter Burnup said: ". . . a shrewd tincture of laughs and quiet smiles. . . . Sim's performance is sheer joy."

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Special Admissions

(Continued from page 1)

said that such exemptions for members of the Armed Forces were temporary expedients authorized in recognition of personal and financial sacrifices by the servicemen. "For all practical purposes," he stated, "the war ended two years ago. Exemptions of service personnel therefore has already been carried two years beyond their intended termination."

The House has also passed a bill removing the 25 per cent excise tax on various types of motion picture equipment, but this is likely to be pigeonholded in the Senate, where opposition has been frequently expressed to singling out any particular excise tax.

UJA Campaign

(Continued from page 1)

to aid hundreds of thousands in displaced persons camps in Germany and Austria, declared that, "I do not believe our motion picture people have ever failed, or ever will fail, to respond to a worthy call from those in distress—always with never the slightest question as to race, creed or color."

He said that "we have an untold opportunity to share a little of [illegible]r bounty with those who suffe[illegible]o spread a little happiness where there is stark despair."

Among others invited were Barney Balaban, Arthur Israel, Jr., Austin C. Keough, Louis A. Novins, Leonard H. Goldenson, E. K. O'Shea, Robert Mochrie, Sol Schwartz, Gordon Youngman, Ned E. Depinet, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jack Cohn, Nate Spingold, Abraham Schneider, Robert Benjamin, Thomas D'Arcy Brophy, Martin Quigley, Harry D. Buckley, Robert Coyne, George F. Dembow, Si Fabian, Leopold Friedman, Ted Gamble, Charles Lewis, Arthur L. Mayer, Dan Michalove, Al Boyd, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., Don Henderson, Charles Schlaifer, Ulric Bell, Sam Shain, Frederick Pride, Samuel Rinzler.

Also, Herman Robbins, Samuel Rosen, George J. Schaefer, George Skouras, Paul Terry, Edwin L. Weisl, William White, Matthew M. Woll, Henry E. Mendes, Jack Alicoate, Alan C. Abeel, Herman G. Place, Clifford D. Wooster, Alex Shikiarides, Matthew Fox, Morton Thalheimer, Morton Thalheimer, Jr., Morris Mechanic, Bert Sanford, Albert Warner, Frank Buehler, James Jerauld.

RKO, Loew's Study

(Continued from page 1)

ment with TOA depends on conclusions to be drawn from a scrutiny of its likely legal effects, adding it is possible the circuit might go in on a full-scale basis or, perhaps, Loew's houses in the field might join regional units of TOA.

TOA would be the outgrowth of a merger of American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, already approved by officers and directors of both groups and now subject to ratification by the membership at a special convention to be held in Washington about Sept. 20.

Both Loew's and RKO dropped out of the ATA when the latter elected to fight competitive bidding with a petition to appear as intervenor in the industry anti-trust case. MPTOA also entered the New York case but only as a "friend of the court," which drew no objections from the two circuits.

Present TOA organization plans would have both ATA and MPTOA continuing as separate entities after the consolidation is effected, if it is.

Ascap Seat Tax

(Continued from page 1)

one organization under that name is ratified by the membership.

An MPTOA board meeting here last week authorized its general counsel, Herman Levy, to discuss with E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, the possibilities of the latter's serving as advisor to exhibitors in a program designed to thwart increased music tax rates on theatres by Ascap.

Holding this program in abeyance until the affiliation is effected is now likely, Levy stated yesterday.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

"The Hucksters" at the Earle drew the biggest box-office this city has seen in some time. Most other theatres, however, are more or less feeling the seasonal exodus to shore and mountain resorts. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 22-24:

FIESTA (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $27,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $42,000. (Average: $31,700)

IVY (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,700. (Average: $21,000)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,600)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,200)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $24,000)

POSSESSED (W-B)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $27,500. (Average: $29,500)

RAMROD (UA)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $14,200. (Average: $12,700)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,500)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $13,800)

BOSTON

The heat wave finally broke to boost grosses from the sagging levels they held during the last two weeks. Leading are "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," at the Memorial, and "The Hucksters," which is running close to the first-week attendance level set by "The Jolson Story." The Boston Theatre returns to stage shows on July 31, with Perry Como and Marion Hutton heading the show. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 23:

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $35,000. (Average: $27,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

POSSESSED (WB) and NEWS HOUNDS (Mono.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $26,000)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (PRC)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $23,400)

PITTSBURGH

A succession of rainy evenings appears to be helping grosses. Three of seven first-runs are drawing well-above-average, including "Duel in the Sun," "Gunfighters," and "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now." Receipts elsewhere are average or near-average for the season. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 24:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—RITZ (1,100) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 6th week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $6,000. (Average at regular prices: $3,200)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $15,000)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $25,000)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I) and THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $2,900. (Average: $3,500)

ST. LOUIS

"Duel in the Sun" in its second week at Loew's State is the leading grosser here. Other above-average performers are "The Egg and I" in its second week at the Shubert, and "In Old California" at Loew's Orpheum. Cooler-than-usual weather prevails. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 23:

POSSESSED (WB) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (PRC)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) and IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) 2nd week. (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $27,000. (Average at regular prices: $19,500)

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) 3rd week. (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,500)

IN OLD CALIFORNIA (Rep.) and SIS HOPKINS (Rep.) LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,500)

A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio) and TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,500)

CHICAGO

"Dear Ruth" at the Chicago, and "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," at the Oriental, lead the Loop dollar parade for the second consecutive week. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 21:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Jo Stafford and Victor Borge. Gross: $64,000. (Average: $59,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 8th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $16,000)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,500)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C. O. D. (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th - Fox)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,000)

IVY (U-I) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $26,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 3rd week. On stage: Dale Evans and The Harmonicats. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $40,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $17,500)

POSSESSED (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $30,000)

Wisconsin Bills

(*Continued from page* 1)

consin is the 43rd state legislature to adjourn, of the 44 which held sessions this year.

A bill authorizing a tax on the sale of popcorn and candy was introduced in Wisconsin, but was defeated, Bryson said. No censorship bill was introduced and an admission tax bill was held in committee.

Only two of the 43 legislatures which have adjourned passed laws affecting the industry. New Jersey passed a bill granting resort cities the rights to impose admission taxes, and New York State enabled local governments to levy a tax on admissions. Censorship bills were introduced in 12 states, Bryson stated, but were defeated in all.

Adjournment in Alabama is not expected before mid-August, Bryson said.

Johnston's Affairs

(*Continued from page* 1)

drawn that he seeks to assume an active role in next year's elections.

On the contrary, they say his numerous public addresses on an assortment of issues of national importance during the past several months, with only infrequent mention of motion pictures, are the result of a reported agreement between Johnston and MPA board members, who feel such continued activity on his part would lend weight to his position as official spokesman for the film industry.

National interest in Johnston would have dwindled considerably if he had concerned himself with films exclusively, it is said, and this led to the reported agreement.

Since he withdrew from the presidency of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce to take over the MPA reins, Johnston has earned reams of newspaper attention by way of talks to local Republican clubs, Chambers of Commerce in various cities, and to other groups and through press conferences.

Johnston Schedule

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, due in New York from London on Thursday, is scheduled to address the National Association of Credit Jewelers in Chicago next Monday. He is to attend an MPA board meeting in New York on July 30 and plans a trip to the West Coast early next month.

Film License Fees

(*Continued from page* 1)

$31,000 over the previous year the department announced today.

Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the division of motion pictures, said that 1,661 pictures were reviewed in 1946-47 and of these five were rejected, four were approved upon revision, and 153 were approved with eliminations.

Nearly 6,000,000 feet of film were inspected and 36,219 licenses and permits were issued.

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Allied Plans High Court Trust Action

Myers Reports 'Amicus Curiae' Move Is Slated

WASHINGTON, July 23. — Allied States will file a brief with the U. S. Supreme Court to appear as *amicus curiae* in the industry's anti-trust suit on the side of the Justice Department, Abram Myers, Allied general counsel, said here today.

The discussion of preliminary plans for the brief was listed as being on the agenda of the Allied executive committee's meeting to be held here July 29-30.

The committee will also discuss the possibility of supporting North Central Allied's appeal of points lost in a case against Ascap and will consider field work during the summer looking to the repeal of the Federal admission tax.

Stating that specific details of Allied's brief in the Government's suit

(*Continued on page 7*)

Florida State Court Upholds Open Shop

TALLAHASSEE, July 23.—Florida's constitutional law prohibiting the closed shop has been upheld by the State Supreme Court, in ruling on a suit brought in Tampa by six American Federation of Labor locals to restrain state officials from enforcing the right-to-work amendment.

Suit went through Federal courts, but the U. S. Supreme Court refused to hear it until it had gone through state courts. In Nov., 1946, the Hillsborough County Circuit Court ruled that State Attorney-General J. Tom Watson, champion of the amendment, had the right to enforce the open shop in Florida.

The lower court held that the six unions represented distinctly different types of business and should bring the suits individually.

Roadshow 'Amber' on A 50-50 Rental Basis

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Forever Amber" will be roadshown at advanced admission prices on a 50-50 rental basis, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., 20th-Fox general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday.

The new sales plan, Smith said,

(*Continued on page 7*)

House Approves Bill To Ease Stock Tax

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The House today passed a bill to correct three injustices in taxes currently imposed on stock and bond issuance and transfers. Senate action is hoped for before adjournment.

One change covers a company recapitalizing and issuing new stock. It would make the issue tax apply only to the increase in capitalization, instead of the entire recapitalization. Another change, covering death or retirement of one member of a partnership, makes the stock transfer tax apply only to that portion of the stocks and bonds owned by the partnership in which the retiring or deceased partner had an interest, not on all the securities owned by the partnership. Finally, the transfer tax would not be levied on loans of stock.

Operators, Majors Are Named in Suit

ALBANY, Ga., July 23.—A. C. and I. C. Gortatowsky, independent operators of four theatres here, have been named defendants in a monopoly suit, together with six distributors, by operators of the Sowega Auto Theatre, near here.

The plaintiffs allege a conspiracy on the part of the defendants to monopolize the theatre trade in the Albany area and to control the distribution of first grade pictures. Plaintiffs were listed as James G McClellen, Walter R. Tron and Willard Quick, and the distributing corporations, all with offices in Atlanta, are: Warner Brothers, Paramount, RKO Radio, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox and United Artists.

Federal Judge F. M. Scarlett has ordered a hearing on the petition in Macon, Aug. 28.

Call Sorrell, Brewer To Coast Labor Probe

LOS ANGELES, July 23.—Union leaders, including Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, and Roy Brewer, IATSE international representative, and his aide, Neal Fairbanks, were among 50 who received subpoenas from U. S. Marshall Robert Clark to appear at the investigation of studio labor practices to be started on Aug. 4 by a House labor subcommittee.

Also subpoenaed were Joseph Tuohy, former president of the AFL Teamsters' union, now Fox West Coast labor relations head, and attorney A. Brigham Rose, who was active in the 1937 labor strife.

"Not a Politician," Avers Johnston

London, July 23. — "I'm a business man, not a politician" is how Eric Johnston today disposed of reports he may be groomed as vice-presidential running mate on the Republican ticket in 1948.

He added he is not representing the American Government on his now concluded trip although he expects to see President Truman on his return to Washington.

Johnston made the prediction British films will gross 50 per cent more in 1948 than in 1947 in the American market, but declined to estimate how much will be remitted to London. That, he said, was J. Arthur Rank's private business as was how the latter may spend his revenue from the States.

It is felt here that the $12,000,000 expectancy to which Rank looks forward from the States this year now is a conservative estimate.

Re-elect Eight to Associated's Board

WILMINGTON, Del., July 23.—At the annual meeting of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc., a holding company, the principal assets of which is Republic Pictures stock, eight directors were re-elected today. They were Robert Delson, Joseph D. Eagen, William German, Milton C. Green, Carl B. Heine, Albert W. Lind, John A. Pfeiffer and Frederick R. Ryan.

Delson is an attorney. Eagen is general manager of the Wilmer and Vincent circuit. German represents the estate of Jules E. Brulatour while Green is purchasing agent for Republic. Heine is a retired business man; Lind is a partner in Sterling, Grace and Co. of New York; Pfeiffer is general manager of the American Maracaibo Co. and Ryan is president and general counsel of Associated Motion Picture Industries, Inc.

The election reduces the board from its previous total of 10 to eight.

General Precision Net Is $417,218

General Precision Equipment Corp. and subsidiary companies report consolidated net profit for the three months ended June 30, after provision for Federal income taxes, of $417,218, subject to year-end adjustments. For a similar three-month period last

(*Continued on page 7*)

Warns Imposts May Hurt U.K. Films in U. S.

Johnston Cites Peril, Bluntly Tells London

By **WILLIAM PAY**

LONDON, July 23.—Imposition of import restrictions, such as the proposed *ad valorem* duty, automatically will produce export restrictions which may result in a world trade war retarding the development of British films in the United States, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, warned in a press interview prior to his departure for the States.

In an outspoken attack on the *ad valorem* tax plan first suggested by Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, here on June 30, Johnston declared he had aired his views bluntly to Dalton. The MPA president, who plans to return here at an unannounced date to discuss this proposal further, emphatically stated he felt the plan will harm the British industry more than the American. He added he appreciated the necessity for dollar conservation on Britain's part, but that "this ruinous tax" is not the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Brylawski in Charge Of TOA Convention

A. Julian Brylawski, vice-president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, has been named chairman of the management committee in charge of all arrangements for the convention of MPTOA and the American Theatres Association, it was announced here yesterday by Robert Coyne, ATA executive director, and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hold N.Y. Foundation Meeting in 2 Weeks

Preparations for the holding in New York in about two weeks of a Motion Picture Foundation organizational meeting were set yesterday at a meeting here between MPF national organization chairman Leonard H. Goldenson and representatives of Motion Picture Associates. Max Cohen, MPF temporary chairman for the New York area, who presided, will set a date for the local organizational meeting shortly. The meeting here will feature election of Foundation committeemen, a national trustee and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, executive producer of 20th Century-Fox, is expected here from the Coast next week.

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Milton S. Kusell, domestic and Canadian sales vice-president for Selznick Releasing Organization, left here last night for Hollywood for sales talks with Neil Agnew, SRO president, and Daniel T. O'Shea and E. L. Scanlon, president and vice-president, respectively, of Vanguard Films.

•

Ben Goetz, head of M-G-M's British studios; Victor Saville, producer, and Herbert Stothart, musical director at the Culver City studios, are due here shortly from the Coast and will sail on the *SS Queen Mary* for London on Aug. 8.

•

Henry Koster, producer-director, and Mrs. Koster will leave the Coast for New York on Aug. 17 and will sail on the *SS Queen Mary* for Europe about Aug. 27.

•

Jerome A. Sixsmith, Paramount International's secretary-treasurer for Australia and New Zealand, is scheduled to arrive in Los Angeles today by plane from Australia.

•

Arthur Hornblow, M-G-M producer, and Mrs. Hornblow will leave the Coast today for New York to sail for London on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* on Aug. 1.

•

Henry Gordon, Paramount International's managing director for Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay, will arrive in New York today by air from Buenos Aires.

•

Joseph R. Vogel, Loew vice-president in charge of theatre operation, and his family will leave here today for a vacation in Maine.

•

Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager for Warner, is due back here tomorrow from Cincinnati.

•

William B. Zoellner, M-G-M short subjects sales head, arrived in Dallas yesterday from Oklahoma City.

•

Patsy Conte will leave New York by plane for the Coast on Aug. 1 to visit his actor-son Richard Conte.

•

Al Zimbalist, Film Classics advertising chief, is vacationing this week in the Adirondacks.

•

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists distribution vice-president, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists president, left New York yesterday for Boston.

•

Jules Levey, independent producer, and Mrs. Levey will sail for Europe on Aug. 1.

Finances, Labor Plague Mexicans

Washington, July 23. — Financial and labor hurdles must still be cleared if Mexican film studios are to turn out quality motion pictures, according to Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Golden, who recently returned from a three-week tour of Mexico, has prepared a lengthy report on the current status of the Mexican industry.

The report outlines the plans of the Mexican film bank, set up in February, to stabilize production and eliminate many "fly-by-night" firms. The Bank will finance only 40 quality Mexican films a year, and loans will be limited to 40 percent of production costs and extended only to experienced producers. Plans also call for a special distribution company to be set up to handle all Mexican films financed by the bank. The bank will also put a ceiling on production costs.

Program Raises Question

"Undoubtedly there is merit in this program," Golden says. "However, the question arises: will it be sound enough to maintain on a profitable basis the studios now operating in Mexico?"

Golden declares that the contract signed with the Syndicate of Workers of Motion Picture Production in mid-June, will probably assure an absence of labor troubles in production for the next year or so. However, he adds, both Mexican and American films are plagued by a union monopoly in distribution, where a new contract has been presented which distributors say will force them to close.

25% Increase in Wages

The new contract, slated to become effective Sept. 26, calls for a 25 percent wage increase, sharply increased employer contributions to union health and welfare funds, other numerous fees, and a provision giving the union power to decide how many workers shall be employed.

"Until effective progress is made in stabilizing labor-management relations in this market," Golden declares, "development of new theatres, so badly needed in Mexico, will be retarded." Golden states that there are only a few more than 1,200 theatres in Mexico. The equipment is old and half of the time the audience can neither hear the sound nor see the picture.

Hoffay Named E-L's Foreign Ad Manager

Michael Hoffay, who resigned his Columbia International publicity post last week, has been named foreign advertising-publicity manager of Eagle-Lion by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity. Hoffay will shortly join Sam Seidelman, foreign department sales chief, on a tour of E-L Latin-American offices to coordinate promotional activities.

Hoffay, one-time correspondent for Mexican and other Latin American newspapers, entered the industry in 1930 as RKO's foreign publicity chief.

U. S. Films Lead in Mexico: 108 Shown

Mexico City, July 23.—Out of the 181 pictures released in Mexico so far this year, American films lead with 108. The number of total releases for this period marks a new high.

Second was Mexico with 31 films, followed by Argentina with 25, England, 11; Chile, three; Spain, two and France, one.

Loew Appeals Award In R. I. Clearance

Loew's has filed an appeal with the arbitration tribunal at Boston of the award made last week in the clearance complaints of Narragansett Pier Amusement Co.

Under the arbitrator's award no clearance over Narragansett's Community Theatre, Wakefield, R. I., may be granted in licenses entered into in the future by the five majors with the Strand, Majestic, Albee, Loew's State, Carlton and Fay's Theatre, all in Providence. It was found that the competition which exists is not sufficiently substantial to warrant clearance.

Legion Classifies 8 Additional Features

Three of eight features currently reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been given A-I ratings; they are: PRC's "Gas House Kids Go West," Republic's "Saddle Pals," and Paramount's "Variety Girl." Placed in Class A-II were: "Lured," United Artists; "Merton of the Movies," M-G-M; "Sepia Cinderella," Herald Pictures, and "Slave Girl," Universal-International.

Warner's "Cry Wolf" was placed in Class B.

New Sanders Office

Nat Sanders, president of English Films, has opened an office in Hollywood, under supervision of Ben DeDici, through which the territories West of the Rockies will be serviced. Several new films are being made ready for early fall release, including "Children on Trial," "School for Danger," "You Will Remember," and "Burma Victory," with Robert Morley and Emlyn Williams.

F-C Appoints Callahan

Albany, N. Y., July 23.—Joseph Callahan, former Universal salesman in Syracuse and son of E. X. Callahan, New England district manager for 20th Century-Fox, has been appointed salesman in Albany by Film Classics. Harold Levy, who filled the post temporarily, is now back at his post in Buffalo.

Technicolor Dividend

A stock dividend of 25 cents per share, payable Aug. 15, to stockholders of record at the close of business on Aug. 4, has been declared by the Technicolor Corp. board of directors.

UA Board Meeting Here on July 30

The twice-postponed meeting of the United Artists board of directors is now set for July 30 with a quorum virtually assured. Board members Arnold Grant and Arthur Kelly advised associates here yesterday that they would return to New York from the Coast in time for the session and Charles Schwartz will interrupt a Lake Placid, N. Y., vacation to attend.

Highlight of the agenda will [illegible] report by Gradwell L. Sears, dist[illegible]tion vice-president, on sales operations in England, from where he returned last weekend.

Lazarus, Jr., Due Aug. 4

Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists director of advertising and publicity, will return to the home office here from the Coast on Aug. 4.

Salsberg, Dudelson Are Dezel Partners

Detroit, July 23.—Edward Salsberg, formerly with Selznick Releasing Organization in Cincinnati, and Harris Dudelson, formerly United Artists branch manager there, have entered into partnership with Albert Dezel, holder of the Screen Guild, Favorite Films and Film Classics franchises here and in Cleveland and Cincinnati.

Meanwhile, Dezel has increased his sales force. Ralph Forman, formerly with UA here, for 11 years, has been named Detroit branch manager; William Clark, formerly with Monogram, has become state salesman; George Valachos has been appointed West Virginia and Kentucky salesman, and Frank Sheppard has become a booker in the Cincinnati office.

$11,210 for "Kissing"

As of 2 P. M. yesterday the New York Roxy recorded a gross of $11,210 for the opening there of George Jessel's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," the theatre management reported, describing the figure as "an all-time high in entire Roxy history." Jessel and the picture's star, June Haver, made a one-day appearance yesterday on the Roxy stage along with the regular stage bill, headed by Abbott and Costello.

Para. Again in Mexico

Mexico City, July 23.—Paramount has resumed exhibition here with "To Each His Own" showing at Trans Lux Prado, after a long layoff explained in local exhibition circles as being due to too few top first run houses, first runs available having no supporting circuits, and keener competition from other companies.

Minimum Wage Bill Deferred by Group

Washington, July 23. — A House labor sub-committee today voted to defer until next session any plans for increasing minimum wages.

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JOAN CRAWFORD
VAN HEFLIN
in WARNER BROS.'
"POSSESSED"

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THE STATE-LAKE
(CHICAGO)
POSSESSED IT FOR 5 WEEKS!

JOAN CRAWFORD
VAN HEFLIN
in WARNER BROS.'
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N NEW YORK THE 8TH WEEK
AT THE HOLLYWOOD!

From Warners-a Possession
to hold and hold!

AN CRAWFORD · VAN HEFLIN in "POSSESSED" with RAYMOND MASSEY · GERALDINE BROOKS
directed by CURTIS BERNHARDT · produced by JERRY WALD

SCREEN PLAY BY SILVIA RICHARDS AND RANALD MacDOUGALL · BASED UPON A STORY BY RITA WEIMAN · MUSIC BY FRANZ WAXMAN · DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOSEPH VALENTINE, A. S. C.

THE BOYS ARE REALLY GOING PLACES WITH PARAMOUNT'S TWO "SWEE

THE PERILS OF Pauline

Topping "Blonde" and "Brunette"* business in Philadelphia, Kansas City, Boston, Atlanta, Minneapolis and scores of other spots . . . and

SHE'S MAKING THE N.Y. PARAMOUNT "THE HAPPIEST SPOT ON BROADWAY" —*N.Y World-Telegram*

because she's

"A KNOCKOUT!"—*Mirror*

"A BONANZA!"—*PM*

"A HONEY!"—*Journal-Am.*

"SOMETHING TO SEE!"—*Herald Trib.*

"WONDERFUL!"—*Telegraph*

"DISPLAYING GREATEST STRENGTH OF ALL CURRENT RELEASES," *says Variety in July 16th Weekly National B.O Survey*

"THE PERILS OF PAULINE"
In Technicolor
Starring **BETTY HUTTON and JOHN LUND**
with BILLY DE WOLFE • William Damarest
Constance Collier • Frank Faylen
Directed by **GEORGE MARSHALL**
Screen Play by P. J. Wolfson and Frank Butler • Produced by Sol C. Siegel

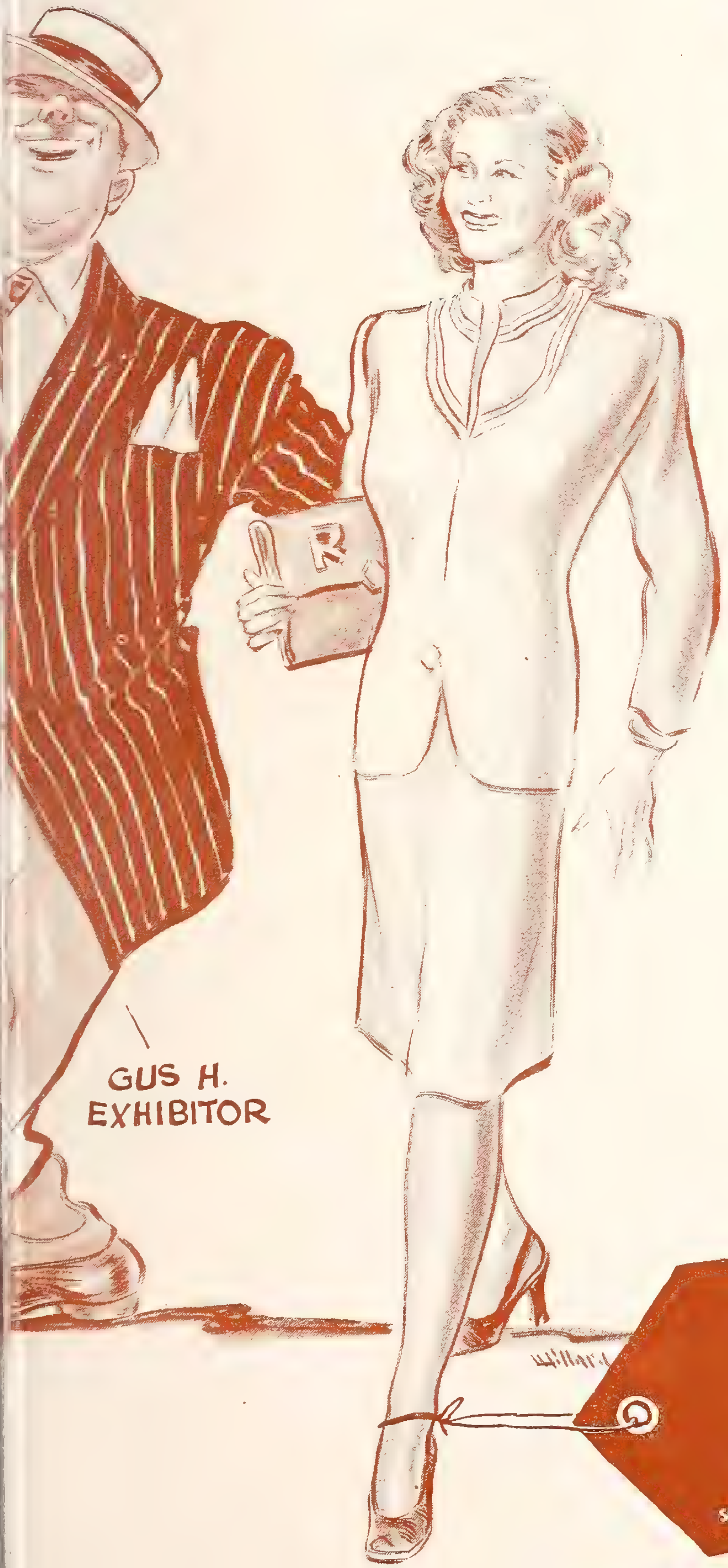
*"Incendiary Blonde" and
'My Favorite Brunette"

EARTS"!

and

OL.

DEAR Ruth



It's the truth . . . there never was a gal like "Ruth" . . .

Her 2nd week in Kansas City topped "California" by 30% — and "Two Years Before the Mast" and "Calcutta" by even bigger margins! . . .

Her 28th day at N. Y. Paramount was only 7% under opening day . . . and she broke the all-time 4th of July record in her 3rd week!

In St. Louis her 4th week's gross was 24% *over* first week! . . .

And Pittsburgh's 6th day nearly *trebles* "California"—nearly doubles "Brunette" and "Calcutta," in same or *smaller* houses!

WILLIAM HOLDEN · JOAN CAULFIELD
in **"DEAR RUTH"** with
BILLY DE WOLFE · EDWARD ARNOLD
MONA FREEMAN
Mary Philips · Virginia Welles · Kenny O'Morrison
Produced by PAUL JONES · Directed by WILLIAM D. RUSSELL
Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman · Based on the Play by Norman Krasna

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Hucksters" made the biggest box-office news in a generally good week, with "Possessed" also turning in cheerful figures. Weather was a bit hot around the edges for day-time business, but the nights were ideal for theatregoing. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 23:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $5,900)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,200)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,600)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,100)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,800)
COPACABANA (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)
COPACABANA (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,200)
COPACABANA (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,400)
COPACABANA (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $18,200)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $28,600)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $11,500)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and BORN TO SPEED (PRC)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $13,200)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,100)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $23,500. (Average: $13,300)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $42,500. (Average: $22,600)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $19,800)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,600) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $20,800)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $26,600)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,100)
POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,200)
POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500)
POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,900)

MINNEAPOLIS

"Welcome Stranger" had a robust first week to top loop theatre business during the Aquatennial festival. "The Egg and I" is strong in its fourth week. Other receipts followed the little-below-average trend of recent weeks. Estimated grosses for the week ending July 24:

CHEYENNE (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,500)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,000)

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (20th-Fox)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from Radio City. Gross: $6,800. (Avergae: $7,300)

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) — GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,400)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 4th week on a moveover from the RKO Orpheum. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,500)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) — LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,600)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Two films, "Lost Honeymoon," with the Desi Arnaz band on stage at the Circle, and "The Hucksters" at Loew's, are piling up bumper grosses here this week, the best of the summer. Other pictures are fair. The weather is wet and unseasonably cool. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 22-23:

LOST HONEYMOON (Eagle-Lion)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c). With Desi Arnaz band on stage. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,500)
IVY (U-I) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,200)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,500)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,800)
THE WEB (U-I) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.) LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

MAGNIFICENT Fireproof 7-Story Building in Jersey City; ideal for studio, movies, films, warehouse, etc. Large cathedral windows. 126,000 square feet and land adjoining. Railroad sidings. 3 minutes from Hudson Tubes Cortlandt Street station. For sale or lease. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

SAVE!
Use Filmack's Prevue
TRAILER SERVICE
CUTS COSTS IN HALF!
$4.50 week
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1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5, ILL.

British Stagger Work Hours to Save Fuel

London, July 23.—Britain has decided to impose penalties of £500 or a year's imprisonment on firms which do not stagger their working hours next winter, in a move to conserve the limited amount of fuel in the nation.

The object of the campaign is to spread the electricity demand and prevent breakdowns in power distribution. Penalties will be used if necessary to enforce regional staggering plans, George Isaacs, Minister of Labor, told the House of Commons. He said the new regulation would become effective on Oct. 1.

Warns Imposts

(*Continued from page 1*)

way. Describing Britain's current plight as a short-term problem, Johnston expressed the opinion there must be another way out of the dilemma.

If Britain proceeds with the Dalton plan, he avowed other European countries, already restive, undoubtedly will adopt similar plans, thereby preventing a revival of international trade which, in his opinion, is the only salvation of the world's economic maladies. If a world trade war should develop because of import restrictions, Johnston made the positive statement America inevitably will join the procession. It was at this point he remarked it would be tragic for Britain's young and rising film industry to face such a threat when otherwise it might be projected into "greatness which would bring immense monies in the future."

Concern for Foreign Producers

He then declared he could not say what advice he will give his American associates, but that he was not worried so much about American producers as over non-American producers.

Acknowledging the impossibility of Britain getting enough return from America to close her trade gap, Johnston reiterated the problem was only short-term in his view and urged the Labor Government to await the development of the Marshall Plan for a way out. "It will go a long way in getting you over the hump," was how he expressed it.

The possibility of a restoration of the wartime freezing of American earnings has never entered his mind, the MPA president observed. He also stated Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the British Board of Trade, had dropped no hint during an interview regarding the form of the next Quota Act. Johnston, too, denied the CEA had suggested a way out of the current situation from the British viewpoint might be to limit film rentals to 33 1/3 per cent, as reported elsewhere. Johnston concluded his attack on the Dalton plan by describing it as "useless, but also unworkable," adding "it's wrong because it prevents world trade from being built up."

Reports on Other Nations

In a report on his trip at large, Johnston said he had visited Belgium, Holland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Poland, Germany, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, and France and came away convinced recovery of economic balance is possible only if these countries are determined to revive and survive with the assistance of the Marshall Plan. The American public, Johnston declared, is not yet appreciative of the necessity of the adoption of that plan, but he promised the American film industry will endeavor to make films designed to bring home the facts not only to Americans but peoples generally throughout the world.

Citing the progress reported by J. Arthur Rank in America and the d[illegible]tribution deal made by Sir Alexan[illegible] Korda with 20th Century-Fox, Johnston claimed the MPA had been a decided factor in aiding the cause of British pictures in America. Cited in this connection was MPA literature circulated among American schools urging children see "Great Expectations" and "Henry V." He admitted however, that the important British films are not doing well in smaller areas in America, despite their metropolitan city success, but added the MPA is "doing all possible" to make public acceptance more widespread. He likewise predicted "Great Expectations" will get runs comparable to first-rate Hollywood product.

Returning to "Henry," Johnston averred the rank-and-file of picture goers in America cannot afford to pay increased admissions to see this attraction and, at the same time, remarking this was United Artists' business and that all the American public undoubtedly will see the film finally.

Nations Plan Own Production

Every European nation is eager to establish its own film industry, Johnston reported. He said the first question asked him everywhere was: "When can we show our pictures on Broadway?" The MPA, he continued, regarded establishment of such industries as a healthy stimulus for Hollywood, and added, the only liaison between the "iron curtain" countries, such as Poland, and the outside world today virtually is via British and American films.

Although the MPA deprecates films giving a distorted view of American life, Johnston said he did not believe in dictating to producers or imposing what he described as "undue" censorship. Questioned on his view of the alleged unseemliness of such pictures as "Duel in the Sun," "The Outlaw" and "Forever Amber," Johnston disposed of the query by referring to Britain's "Wicked Lady." He observed his tour of the war-ravaged countries revealed a preference for a realistic point of view in films rather than certain, oversentimentalized Hollywood attractions which, however, he did not identify by title.

Johnston is taking with him three reels of a Polish film which he intends showing to President Truman. He voiced the hope America's prewar agreement with Czechoslovakia will be revived this autumn, but stressed no particular film angle.

Tonight, the head of MPA saw Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin. On Thursday, he will talk with Ambassador Douglas and Korda, and lunch with Rank.

Loew's Wins Rosen Suit

Appeal by writer Al Rosen from the U. S. District Court's dismissal of his plagiarism suit against Loew's was denied yesterday by the U. S. Circuit Court, here. Rosen had alleged infringement by Loew's of his scenario, "The Mad Dog of Europe," in the 1939 M-G-M production of "The Mortal Storm."

O'Brien Minimizes UK Outlay for Films

LONDON, July 23.—So "vastly and astronomically broke" was Britain that the $72,000,000 a year which the nation has spent on American films was like "a grain of salt in a salt mine," Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, declared here yesterday.

The 4,500 theatres in Britain could not be kept going by British films alone, O'Brien reminded, adding that if American films were taken away audiences would have to see the same British film over and over again, or theatres would have to close.

Allied Plans

(*Continued from page* 1)

could not be discussed until after the executive committee's meeting, Myers reiterated Allied's "traditional stand for divorcement."

The brief filed with the U. S. Supreme Court will repeat points made in Allied's stand with the New York Federal Court, including objections to cross-licensing by the distributors and the suggestion that competitive bidding be conducted on flat rental.

Myers said that if "all the issues" in the North Central-ASCAP suit are raised National Allied would drop plans to prepare a test case of its own.

Earlier this week Myers declared that the results of his competitive bidding survey would also be submitted to the executive committee.

Other subjects to be considered by the committee at its meeting next week, as outlined in an Allied statement, are:

Progress of the campaign to produce additional sources of product; President Jack Kirsch's plan for handling exhibitor complaints; consideration of requests from several territories for assistance in setting up Allied units; plans for implementing and extending the service rendered by Allied to its members with respect to every-day operating problems, and formal applications for membership not yet approved.

Members of the executive committee who will attend are: Col. H. A. Cole, Jack Kirsch, M. A. Rosenberg, Sidney E. Samuelson, Martin G. Smith, Nathan Yamins and Myers. William L. Ainsworth will also meet with the committee to complete plans for Allied's national convention which will open in Milwaukee on Dec. 1.

The meeting of the executive committee, which is expected to map an intensive membership campaign. will be followed by a meeting of the board of directors in the late summer or early autumn.

General Precision

(*Continued from page* 1)

year, the corporation and subsidiary companies reported consolidated net profit, after provision for Federal income taxes, of $529,486, subject to year-end adjustments. In addition, last year, the corporation also reported a profit of $486,576 realized from sale of investments.

New Pact for Van Upp

HOLLYWOOD, July 23.—Columbia has given Virginia Van Upp a new seven-year contract as writer-producer, replacing the pact which still had two years to run.

Short Subject

"Whistle in the Night"

(*RKO Radio—This Is America*)

The full flavor of American railroad operations is captured in this interesting examination of the achievements and future prospects of the country's second largest industry. The cameras of producer Frederic Ullman, Jr., were trained on railroad yards, locomotive-building plants, track workers and many other points of physical activity. As each facet of railroading comes to the fore, narrator Dwight Weist provides the audience with facts and figures in entertaining fashion. Railroad magnate Robert R. Young is indicated as one of the principal planners of the industry's future, a future which, the film points out, must take into account the ever increasing competition of air and automotive transportation. Running time, 17 minutes.

Brylawski in Charge

(*Continued from page* 1)

Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel.

The meeting, at which the membership of both groups will vote on a consolidated organization, to be called Theatre Owners of America, will be held on Sept. 19-20 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D. C.

Ratification of the affiliation by delegates to the convention is "expected," yesterday's announcement declared.

Named to work with Brylawski on the convention are: Frank Boucher, dinner committee; Gene Ford, entertainment; Harry Bachman, registration and rooms; Mrs. Sidney Lust, ladies' committee; Hardie Meaken, printing; Carter Barron, general arrangements.

Brylawski and the committee chairmen will assemble in New York on July 31 for detail planning with Coyne, Levy, Si Fabian and Ted R. Gamble.

Roadshow 'Amber'

(*Continued from page* 1)

calls for regular playing time in the country's theatres, with protection guaranteed throughout 1948 and 1949. The film will not be shown anywhere at lower prices during those years. The increased admission scale will be $1.20 for evenings, 75 cents for matinees, and 55 cents for children.

The film, Smith added, "will be released to the largest number of day-and-date bookings in the history of the company, opening Oct. 29 in a number of key situations on the West Coast and throughout the country." The launching includes a premiere at the Roxy in New York. Charles Schlaifer, 20th's advertising-publicity director, will prepare the way for the key showings with "an intensive" exploitation campaign.

N. Y. Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

a permanent chairman for the New York area.

Others present at yesterday's meeting included Associates' head Fred Schwartz and Malcolm Kingsberg, George Skouras, Harry Mayer, Manny Frisch, Sam Rinzler, Harold Rinzler and Harry Brandt.

FLASH!

ARMY AIR FORCES DAY
AUGUST 1st

YOU CAN BOOK
THE MIGHTIEST
AIR FILM EVER
RELEASED!

THE ARMY AIR FORCES' OWN TOP SECRET FILM OF "OPERATION STRANGLE" ...THE MOST SMASHING AIR VICTORY IN HISTORY!
5C6
THUNDERBOLT
IN TECHNICOLOR

"THRILLING! GRAPHIC! VIVID!" – says the New York Times

"Americans everywhere should see it!" – Lieut. General H. S. Vandenberg

Directed by William Wyler

Released by Monogram Pictures Corporation through arrangements with Carl Krueger Productions and the United States Army Air Forces

With an introduction by JAMES STEWART

Phone Your Nearest
MONOGRAM EXCHANGE
RIGHT NOW!

I wonder who's kissing her now

Color by Technicolor!

SET A NEW ALL-TIME 20-YEAR RECORD AT THE ROXY, NEW YORK YESTERDAY, TOPPING THE PHENOMENAL FIGURES OF "THE RAZOR'S EDGE"!

CHICAGO—ALL-TIME 20th RECORD ANY THEATRE, ANY WEEK!

DETROIT—ALL-TIME 20th OPENING RECORD!

BOSTON—SAN FRANCISCO—CINCINNATI SMASHING RECORD HIGHS OF "STATE FAIR"!

WONDER GROSSES IN INDIANAPOLIS—MANCHESTER—OAKLAND!

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW" TECHNICOLOR • starring JUNE HAVER • MARK STEVENS with MARTHA STEWART • REGINALD GARDINER • Lenore Aubert • William Frawley • Gene Nelson • Truman Bradley • George Cleveland • Directed by LLOYD BACON • Produced by GEORGE JESSEL • Original Screen Play by Lewis R. Foster • Additional Dialogue by Marion Turk • Dances Staged by Hermes Pan

20

CENTURY-FC

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 18 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, JULY 25, 1947 TEN CENTS

Talk of Plan To Substitute For U.K. Levy

Johnston Will Broach Alternative Proposal

LONDON, July 24.—The American industry may come up with an alternative plan to the *ad valorem* tax proposal which Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, severely criticized in talks here with Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Prior to his departure for New York by American Overseas Airlines today, Johnston refused to discuss such a possibility which is completely authoritative, nevertheless.

It is understood, furthermore, that Johnston carries overseas the conviction that he made definite progress in persuading Dalton to give full consideration to such an alternative. Immediately upon his arrival in America, the MPA president is expected to launch immediate discussions along this line so that he can return to London shortly with a concrete proposal.

There is no information available

(*Continued on page 6*)

Shuffle UK Screen Time Next Winter

LONDON, July 24.—Machinery has been prepared by Cinematograph Exhibitors Association secretary W. R. Fuller whereby British exhibitors who will be particularly affected by the impending government regulation requiring the staggering of working hours next winter may immediately discuss with local licensing authorities the spreading of screening times over abnormal hours.

Britain has decided to impose penalties of £500 or a year's imprisonment on firms which do not stagger working hours next winter. The move

(*Continued on page 6*)

Expect 130 Millions On Rentals Aboard

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Industry remittances from foreign film rentals during 1946 are expected to rise to about $130,000,000, according to a preliminary estimate. Quarterly figures during 1946 have been running at ap-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Warner-Pathe Deal At Official Stage

Purchase of RKO Pathe News by Warner Brothers as the foundational structure for the new Warner Newsreel will be announced momentarily. Meanwhile, an additional step was taken yesterday when Warner News, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was authorized to transact business in New York State.

ALBANY, N. Y., July 24.—Warner News, Inc., was chartered by the Secretary of State today. Norman Moray will be president of the company, which enters business with an authorized capital stock of 1,000 shares of no par value.

The company declared its principal purpose is to undertake and transact all kinds of business relative to the gathering and distributing of news and

(*Continued on page 6*)

Smith Opens Sales Parley in Canada

MONTREAL, July 24.—Final meeting of a series of regional sales conferences held this month by Andrew W. Smith, general sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, will take place tomorrow and Saturday, here. Conferring at the Mount Royal Hotel will be representatives of the company's home office and Canadian sales division, who will discuss the company's line-up for the coming year, with emphasis on the new sales plan for "Forever Amber."

Attending the meeting from the

(*Continued on page 6*)

NLRB Rejects CSU Conspiracy Charge

Hollywood, July 24. — The National Labor Relations Board has rejected the petition of the Conference of Studio Unions for a complaint against film producers, filed several weeks ago, charging conspiracy with the IATSE to deprive CSU members of employment.

WB, MGM and ABC In Radio Hook-up

LONDON, July 24.—A deal has been concluded by Warner Brothers, M-G-M and Associated British Cinemas, London, with Radio-Luxembourg on the European Continent calling for an extended series of sponsored broadcasts from across the channel to Great Britain.

The schedule includes a 30-minute show called "Hollywood Half Hour", to be aired every Sunday at 4:30-5:00 P.M., augmented by a quarter-hour program on Tuesdays and Fridays at 4:30-4:45 P.M. and spot announcements on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

First of the Warner programs will go on the air from Radio-Luxembourg on Aug. 3, synchronized with the opening of "Nora Prentiss" at the Warner Theatre here.

The deal marks the first radio series to be sponsored by motion picture interests for promotion directed toward British listeners.

Teen-agers' Resentment To High Prices Grows

CHICAGO, July 24.—While 'teen-age dissension over current adult Chicago theatre admission prices has not yet risen to a high enough pitch to force any action, nevertheless, comments and criticisms are mounting.

Although pressure has been brought to bear elsewhere in the country in an attempt to lower children's admission prices, Chicago is only now beginning to feel the "pinch." Recently, one Southside youth organization here formed a lobby against high theatre prices. Due to insufficient strength, however, the move lost momentum. And yet, in spite of this failure, alert showmen are becoming aware of the acute need for a change in price scales, if thousands of 'teen-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Senate Votes to End Tax-Free Admissions

Washington, July 24. — The Senate today passed a bill ending tax-free admissions for servicemen as of Dec. 31, 1947.

The House has already passed the bill, but other portions of the House bill, covering other matters, were amended in the Senate, and the two versions must go to conference. The theatre section is identical in the two bills.

Limited Trade Practices By TOA Proposed

Will Offer a Plan for 'High Plane' Activities

A proposal to incorporate trade practices of a "high plane" in the constitution of the Theatre Owners of America will be submitted to the TOA organization meeting in Washington Sept. 19-20, theatremen close to the contemplated association here report.

The proposal, which will be one of many to go before the meeting, would allow TOA to concern itself with national exhibitor-distributor relations, excluding local differences on rentals and various isolated disputes.

Proponents of TOA—formation of which has been approved by officials

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA-Odeon Impasse Remains Unlocked

LONDON, July 24.—United Artists' move for more advantageous playing time over the Odeon circuit in which it holds a minority interest is yet to bear fruit, thereby suggesting that Gradwell L. Sears' extended visit here was not a success.

Sears discussed the matter with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in Brussels and took the position the Association had let UA down by not insisting on consideration of the company's position when J. Arthur Rank was setting up playing time arrangements with five major American circuits. To this, Johnston is understood to have replied that MPA had nothing to do with Rank's various negotiations.

Sears' efforts to develop an exhibitor coalition in opposition to Rank,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Legality of Games Muddled in Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS, July 24. — "More facts" on bank nights are needed "to supplement previous opinions" before the state's attorney general will definitely rule on their legality in Minnesota, the public official's office discloses.

This latest move in the multi-col-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, president of Republic Pictures, is due here Monday from the Coast and Cheyenne.

•

George D. Burrows, executive vice-president and treasurer, and Scott R. Dunlap, John S. Harrington and William Porter, Monogram-Allied Artists executives, have returned to the studio from an Oklahoma City sales convention.

•

Jim Mooney, Universal-International office manager in Denver, has joined 20th Century-Fox there as a salesman. Herb Cohen, U-I booker, has added the office manager post to his duties.

•

Robert J. O'Donnell, vice-president and general manager of the Interstate Circuit of Texas, is visiting here until next mid-week, when he will return to Dallas.

•

C. J. Feldman, Universal-International Western division sales manager, will leave New York today for Omaha, Des Moines and Kansas City, and is due back Aug. 2.

•

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, has returned to the home office from a studio visit.

•

Paul Ackerman, director of advertising-publicity for Paramount International, is spending a two-week vacation at Friends Lake, N. Y.

•

Arthur C. Bromberg, head of Monogram's Southern exchanges, and Mrs. Bromberg visited Savannah from Atlanta this week.

•

Sam Dembow, Jr., left for Hollywood yesterday to confer with Boris Morros and William Le Baron on Federal Films' plans.

•

George Harvey, Paramount press book editor, will leave here today for a two-week vacation on Shelter Island, L. I.

•

Ben Washer, Paramount publicity manager, will fly to the Coast from here tonight for studio conferences.

•

Joseph E. McMahon, secretary of Republic, will return here Monday from a vacation in Corning, N. Y.

•

William Shartin, Producers Releasing-Eagle-Lion district manager at Albany, N. Y., is in town.

•

Eddie Dowden of Loew's advertising department, is vacationing at Cutchogue, L. I.

•

Monty Woolley is recuperating from an operation at Albany, N. Y., Hospital.

•

Larry Flynn, Paramount's transportation manager, has left here on vacation.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THEY'RE beginning to relax at RKO. It can't be a complete relaxation, however, until more returns are in, but great stock is being placed on the strength demonstrated by "Crossfire" in its early stretches at the Rivoli.

This is the film, No. 1 bearing the imprint "Dore Schary Presents," which deals with anti-Semitism without pulling its punches. The attraction opened Tuesday and captured general endorsement on the typewriters of the New York critics, most of whom applauded the fact that Hollywood, for once, had forgotten its temerity and had recognized a hard fact with realism and forthrightness.

■

But like all good showmen, all hands at RKO understand the most compelling kind of language prevailing throughout this industry is the language of the box-office. When "Crossfire" did better than $8,000 on its opening day, in excess of $7,000 on the second and was heading for another $7,000 by about 6 P.M. last night, it began to spell performance—a word any theatreman can understand. If the Rivoli is lucky enough to enjoy good theatre weather the remainder of the first week, the gross probably will hit $55,000 or slightly better.

Should this turn out to be the ticket, "Crossfire" then will have given that house its biggest week in approximately a year and, insofar as RKO itself is concerned, practically twice the take raked in by "The Farmer's Daughter" at the same stand.

The distributor, incidentally, has no apologies to make for this latter attraction, which held on to its Rivoli tenancy for seven weeks.

■

Interesting things already are taking place there. On Wednesday evening, for instance, there was one time when the theatre was full and plenty of paying customers had to wait for an hour for seats; they waited, too. Not completely unusual, but unusual enough, was the fact patrons took the trouble to compliment the management on the calibre of the attraction.

Not much will develop in the life of this film until the Broadway run establishes itself to the hilt. Once that point is reached, other dates will begin to unfold. By then, the distributor expects to be in the happy position of breaking down whatever resistance may have reared its head on the part of exhibitors who are speculative about any hard-hitting film concerning itself with subject matter not normally touched upon in Hollywood.

At RKO, they understand full well the most effective way to beat any such eventuality is to demonstrate there's money to be made.

■

A number of other eyes are on this film, incidentally. And with sufficient reason. "Crossfire" cost about $600,000, which is buttons in these days of multi-million dollar negatives. It was shot in less than a month, which is more buttons on today's time schedule in Hollywood.

The answer lodges in preparation and in the extreme care employed in getting the script in the exact shape determined for it before a single camera began to roll.

Changes were made *before,* not *during* and not *after* production, so that the sailing was clear as well as assured. This provided the producers with a straight route to their objective. Having no need to deviate, there was no deviation.

It sounds so overwhelmingly simple that one wonders why more of the same technique does not prevail.

■ ■

London cables tell how Grad Sears sought to deposit UA's long-standing booking difficulties with the Odeon circuit in the laps of the Motion Picture Association and Eric Johnston. Apparently, the idea was this represented a trouble spot which might have been ironed out as J. Arthur Rank sought to iron out other trouble spots [playing time for British pictures] with the five major American circuits.

Johnston rejoined MPA had nothing to do with these negotiations. He might have observed, additionally, UA had no claim on MPA anyway.

It's not a member company of the association.

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"
with MARK STEVENS • JUNE HAVER
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE IN PERSON!
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT • MYRNA LOY • SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

WYOMING
Starring
William ELLIOTT
Vera RALSTON
John CARROLL
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BRANDT'S COOL GLOBE 46th St. B'way

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
VAN JOHNSON
JUNE ALLYSON
in M-G-M's
'HIGH BARBAREE'
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
Adrian ROLLINI Trio
Extra!
TIM HERBERT
plus OTHERS

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
36TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE"
in TECHNICOLOR
Starring
BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM"
ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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THE NEXT IMPORTANT INDUSTRY DATE IS

Mother's Day

FOLKS IN THE KNOW OUT IN HOLLYWOOD ARE ALL TALKING ABOUT A GREAT NEW TECHNICOLOR PICTURE FROM 20TH CENTURY-FOX!

(The same 20th Century-Fox whose Technicolor **I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW** set a new all-time 20th record for any theatre, any week in Chicago—a new all-time 20th opening record, in Detroit—a sensational pace in Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh and Boston!)

IT'S THE FIRST TRUE STORY OF SHOW BUSINESS—NOT AS IT'S BEEN TOLD A HUNDRED TIMES IN BACKSTAGE PLOT, BUT AS WE IN SHOW BUSINESS REALLY KNOW IT!

(Just as everybody in show business is talking about the Miracle figures being set by **MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET** everywhere—and the miracle holdover and move-over runs!)

THIS PICTURE IS "MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"* AND IT IS THE NEXT GREAT 20TH CENTURY-FOX ATTRACTION TO OPEN IN NEW YORK!

(New Yorkers will also soon be seeing **KISS OF DEATH, FOXES OF HARROW, NIGHTMARE ALLEY, DAISY KENYON** — and **FOREVER AMBER** in Technicolor, **GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT** and **CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE** in Technicolor!)

MOTHER'S GREAT DAY WILL BE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH, WHEN "MOTHER WORE TIGHTS" OPENS AT THE ROXY! EVERY SHOWMAN WILL REMEMBER MOTHER'S OPENING DAY!

* Mother is **BETTY GRABLE**—Dad is new-star **DAN DAILEY**—and the kids are **MONA FREEMAN** and **CONNIE MARSHALL**. It was directed by **WALTER LANG** and produced by **LAMAR TROTTI**. Lyrics and music by Mack Gordon and Josef Myrow.

20th CENTURY-FOX

Ask Clarifying For "Narcissus"

SOUTH BEND, July 24.—More than 300 priests, brothers and sisters, representing 60 religious communities at a meeting of the Sisters' Vocation Institute at the University of Notre Dame, have asked J. Arthur Rank to make "crystal clear" that "Black Narcissus" concerns "a definitely unique case" not representative of nuns of any creed. The film, which Universal is slated to release, has for its chief characters a group of Anglican (Church of England) nuns.

The request is in the form of a letter, the text of which was released today by the Most Rev. Laurence L. Graner, CSC, Bishop of Dacca, India, acting for a special committee appointed by the Institute, which met here to discuss means of fostering vocations to the various sisterhoods.

"We hope your explanation will not be that these are Anglican nuns and that, therefore, Roman Catholics should not be offended. Such a reply would be in bad taste, ungallant and derogatory to the religion of many of your countrymen; it would, moreover, be wholly inadequate because, as you well know, the average moviegoer will make no such distinction," read the letter, in part. "We trust, therefore, that this is made crystal clear in the movie itself, in advertising, etc., that this picture means to portray a special instance, definitely contrary to the 'open book' record of the vast majority of nuns," it continued.

The letter also was signed by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Sabo, Dean of the Clergy of South Bend, Ind.; Rev. Thomas Maher of St. Patrick's Cathedral Rectory, New York; Rev. John H. Wilson, CSC, Holy Cross Seminary, Notre Dame; Rev. Wendell P. Corcoran, CSC, pastor of St. Patrick's Church, South Bend, and Rev. Arnold Wilbert, pastor of St. Matthew's Church, South Bend. Copies were forwarded to Nate J. Blumberg, president of Universal, and to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

Harold Leiber Set For Clearance Suit

CHICAGO, July 24.—Seymour Simon, Chicago attorney, has been retained by Harold Leiber, owner of the Calumet Theatre, Hammond, Ind., to attempt to secure an adjustment of Hammond film clearances.

Leiber's complaint against major distributors and circuits is that his theatre, a third-run house, is unable to play films for at least 60 days, and often longer, after first-runs. Simon is expected to institute court action within two weeks.

LeLarge Acquires Two

Andre LeLarge of European Copyrights and Distribution, Inc., has acquired two French films, "L'Honorable Catherine" and "Non Coupable," which will be released by the company at the same time as "The Idiot."

To Show 'Adventure'

"Adventure Island," Pine-Thomas production in color, based on Robert Louis Stevenson's "Ebb Tide," will be tradeshown by Paramount in all territories on Friday, Aug. 8.

Theatres Warned of Popcorn Shortage

Kansas City, July 24.—The possibility that popcorn for theatres and other large users may have a "short crop" this year, and that the present supply may prove inadequate until the new crop arrives, is called to the attention of exhibitors in the current service bulletin of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association.

The bulletin points out that while KMTA officers are led to believe a genuine shortage may exist later, they warn exhibitors against loading up and thus taking the chance of losing stocks through improper storage.

Boston Award Cuts Clearance 23 Days

Maximum clearance which may be granted in film licenses hereafter entered into by the five majors to the Stadium, Bijou and Park theatres, Woonsocket, R. I., over the Star Theatre, Pascoag, R. I., has been stipulated as seven days and not later than 60 days after territorial release date, by Charles S. Bolster, Boston district arbitrator, it is reported here by the American Arbitration Association.

Award was made on a complaint brought against the five by the Star's owner, Harold Amusement Corp. Complainant's principal grievance was that by being subjected to not less than 30 days clearance after first-run on Providence, the Star thereby became a victim of the "Boston break," making it impossible for complainant to show pictures with any degree of promptness after the 30-day clearance had elapsed.

Williford to Preside At TESMA Forum

CHICAGO, July 24.—E. Allan Williford, vice-president of General Aniline and Film Corp., will serve as moderator at the open forum to be conducted by the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association on Sept. 26, during TESMA's annual trade show, to be held at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington. The open forum will be launched with discussions on theatre television, prefabricated theatres, Quonset theatres, and other subjects.

Harry Rosnagle, 48

CHICAGO, July 24.—Harry Rosnagle, 48, manager and part owner of the Blackstone Theatre here, died yesterday at his home in suburban Winnetka. Associated with the Blackstone since 1943, and manager of the Harris Theatre for 15 years before that, Rosnagle was in the film business for 25 years. He leaves a widow and three sons.

F. M. Swiger Joins PRC

OKLAHOMA CITY, July 24.—Forrest Melville Swiger, in the industry for nine years, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as a salesman in the local branch, where he will work under branch manager Claude A. York.

Schlaifer Reelected Chairman of PIC

Charles Schlaifer

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio for 20th Century-Fox, has been reelected chairman of the Eastern Public Information Committee for the next term of office. Member companies of PIC are: Universal - International, Warner Brothers, Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer, United Artists, RKO Radio, Paramount, Columbia, and 20th Century-Fox.

Chairmanship of the PIC usually rotates every six months, with advertising-publicity heads of film companies serving in that post. Schlaifer's reelection occurred at a meeting of the committee held here yesterday.

Mexican Union Asks 50% Pay Increase

MEXICO CITY, July 24.—Union employes of the 10 American distributors in Mexico, and those of a number of Mexican distributors, are demanding a 50 per cent wage increase. It has been strongly indicated that a strike will result if the increase is not forthcoming.

The two-year contract that ended the strike against some American and Mexican distributors in 1945 will expire next month, and formal 50 per cent increase demands will be proferred by union officials at that time.

In 1945 some distributors avoided the strike by granting pay increases of 10 and 25 per cent. Pay raise demand in 1945 was for 50 per cent.

While some distributors here admit the current demand is a just one, since living costs in Mexico have increased 400 per cent since 1939, they aver they will not be able to allow it because their business has dropped, according to some, as much as 35 per cent in the last eight months.

Filmack Opening Branch on Coast

CHICAGO, July 24.—Filmack Trailer Corp. will open a new branch in Los Angeles on Sept. 2, it was announced here today by Irving Mack, sales manager. The Coast branch will consist of an office and a production laboratory.

"Un." Stockholder Suit

Universal stockholder Stephen Truncale yesterday filed suit in New York Federal Court against some company executives seeking an accounting of profits allegedly resulting from stock deals participated in by company officers.

'Cinderella' Premiere

World premiere of Herald Pictures' "Sepia Cinderella" will be held tonight at the Apollo Theatre here.

Gov't Film Section Terminates June 30

WASHINGTON, July 24. — House-Senate appropriations conferees have voted the office of Government reports $230,000 to operate during the coming year, but stipulated that the agency, including the motion picture liaison section, must be out of business by next June 30.

As it is, the OGR will operate on a very reduced basis. It had asked Congress for $600,000. Of this, $22,650 was for the motion picture section Approval by House and Senate ar certain.

The conferees also voted funds to return the Securities and Exchange Commission to Washington from Philadelphia. It slashed deeply funds requested by the Federal Communications Commission, but allowed the Federal Trade Commission and SEC more funds than the sharply curtailed budget voted originally by the House.

WB Anniversary Winds Up Tomorrow

Warner's "Anniversary Drive," 13-week sales campaign which started April 27, will wind up tomorrow. Although the winners will not be determined until final returns are in, late in August, leaders at the end of the 12th week by districts were: First, Midwest, Harry Seed, district manager; second, Southwest, Doak Roberts; third, Central, Charles Rich.

Winners by branches were: (Grouped into four teams), first places, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Detroit, Chicago; second places, Oklahoma City, St. Louis, Cleveland, New York; third places, Memphis, Minneapolis, Pittsburgh, Boston.

Clift, British Film Leader, Due Here

LONDON, July 24.—Sir Sidney Clift, 1944-45 president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, will sail on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* on Aug. 22 for New York. Sir Sidney has been knighted by the King.

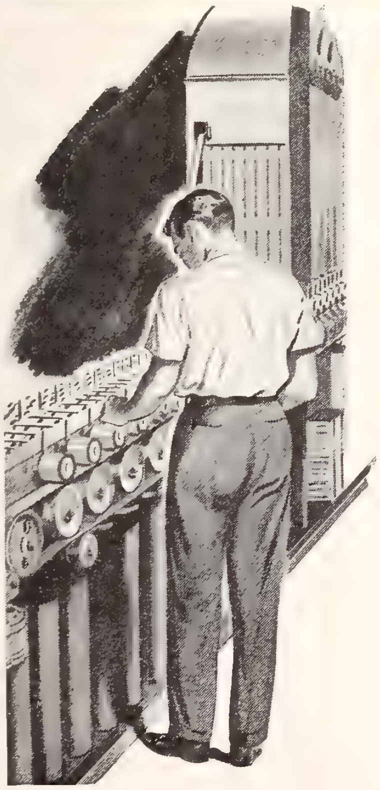
The CEA tendered a luncheon to Sir Sidney last week after the King had knighted him. Government ministers, members of Parliament and labor leaders united in the tribute to Sir Sidney.

Special Trailer for U-I Special Drive

Universal-International is using a special 35-minute trailer on 17 present and forthcoming Hollywood-made productions to stimulate exhibitor interest in the company's "Nate J. Blumberg — J. Arthur Rank Sales Drive." Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. is the narrator of the trailer which features production scenes of films already completed and those shooting, plus promotion material on pictures in production.

Tom Bailey Acquires Two Firms in Denver

DENVER, July 24.—Tom Bailey, in distribution for 15 years, has resigned as local branch manager of RKO Radio, and has bought the Cinema Distributing Co. from Harold Cohen, and the Commercial Film exchange from Nat Wolfe. Bailey has gone to Salt Lake City to establish offices there and to arrange for more films for his two exchanges.



Guardian of her most important "bath"...

COSTLY shots like this might be so much spoiled footage . . . save for the vigilance and knowledge of the laboratory man.

He makes sure that the dailies take *their* all-important bath . . . inspecting, testing, keeping constant check as the exposed footage runs through the developing, fixing, and washing tanks and driers.

To his skill and watchfulness . . . as film representing "box-office gold" literally slips through his careful fingers . . . motion pictures owe much of their well-earned reputation for technical excellence.

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EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

Complete Code for Radio Broadcasters

WASHINGTON, July 24.—In a two-day meeting concluding here today, the special standards of practice committee of the National Association of Broadcasters has completed the drafting of a new code for the broadcasting industry.

The standards group, a sub-committee of the NAB's program executive committee, will now submit its code recommendations for the latter's consideration. Pursuant to consideration by the program committee, the proposed code will be presented to the NAB's board of directors.

Harold Fair, NAB program department director, said at the meeting's conclusion, "We are hopeful of having a code ready by the time of the NAB convention in September."

Members of the committee who attended the meeting at NAB headquarters, here, include: Robert Swezey, MBS, chairman; George Biggar, WIBC; Eugene Carr, WPAY; Roger W. Clipp, WFIL; Walter J Damm, WTMJ; Ken R. Dyke, NBC; Harold Fellows, WEEI; Gilson Gray, CBS; C. T. Lucy, WRVA; John M. Outler, WSB. NAB was represented by Justin Miller, president; A. D. Willard, Jr., executive vice-president; C. E. Arney, Jr., secretary-treasurer; Ben Miller and Fair.

UA-Odeon Impasse

(Continued from page 1)

show no signs of fruition. It is reported that, while here, he tried to line up two West End (London's Times Square) first-runs for "Monsieur Verdoux." This was stymied by cables from New York to drop the move pending further development of Russell Birdwell's publicity campaign for Chaplin's film which has been set back in the States to October.

United Artists which withdrew from the Motion Picture Association some time ago has never returned to its membership roster.

UA Developments Unlikely As Chaplin Takes Vacation

HOLLYWOOD, July 24.—The likelihood of significant developments in United Artists affairs during the visit of Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, appeared dimmed when Charles Chaplin left this morning for a week's rest away from the city.

Sears, who is expected to remain here for "several days," today continued talks with individual UA producers which started yesterday, reportedly on the company's distribution problems in England. No general meeting with producers and no formal conferences with the UA partner-owners have been scheduled.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents*

CLEVELAND

Perry Como, with Marion Hutton and a strong vaudeville company are breaking records at the RKO Palace; on the screen was "The Corpse Came C.O.D." Another big draw was "The Hucksters" at Loew's State. "Duel" continues strong in its sixth week. The weather is cool with excessive rain. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 22-23:

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c). Stage: Perry Como, with Marion Hutton and vaudeville. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $30,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 6th week. Gross $14,500. (Average: $11,000 at regular prices)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,500)

HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $32,500. (Average: $18,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70). 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,500)

UNFAITHFUL (WB) — WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,250)

WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

OMAHA

This city enjoyed generally fair, but considerably cooler weather. Two of four first-runs were above average, the others close. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 23-24:

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON (20th-Fox) and THE WICKED LADY (U-I) — OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $7,800. (Average: $8,500)

CHEYENNE (WB) — PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $12,900. (Average: $10,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox) and HIT PARADE of 1947 (Rep.) — ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,100. (Average: $9,300)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—RKO-BRANDEIS (1,100) (60c-65c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,600)

BUFFALO

"The Hucksters" is leading the field here by a wide margin in a week of thunder-and-lightning rain storms. "Duel in the Sun," playing at advanced admission prices, is holding to the Teck's average based on regular admission prices. Other offerings are somewhat below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 26:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—TECK (1,500) (90c-$1.25) 6th week, on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and I COVER BIG TOWN (Para.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $26,200. (Average: $18,000)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (Eagle-Lion) and HEARTACHES (PRC)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16,000)

UNFAITHFUL (WB) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M) — HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE WEB (U-I) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.) — LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $10,800. (Average: $15,000)

TOA Practices

(Continued from page 1)

of the American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and is now subject to ratification of their memberships—are said to feel that the way should be cleared for the organization's entry into some industry practices, unlike ATA, which at the outset declared itself to be dealing only with matters emanating outside of the industry.

The exact text of the new proposal has yet to be determined since the term "trade practices" itself lends itself to more than one interpretation, it was said. Also to be decided is the nature of business activities to come within the scope of the proposal. Distributors' dealings with 16mm. operators and television stations are said to be likely subjects.

TOA, if approved at the convention, would be a consolidation of ATA and MPTOA.

Shuffle UK Screen

(Continued from page 1)

is intended to conserve the limited amount of fuel in the nation.

Until the government officially announces details of the staggering of working hours, it is impossible to estimate the effect the regulation will have on British box-offices. Fuller expects to be summoned to a Whitehall conference before a detailed government plan is issued.

Expect $130,000,000

(Continued from page 1)

proximately $33,000,000. The Department of Commerce figure for 1945 was about $111,000,000.

The figures are for net royalties after foreign expenses.

Meanwhile, the Department of Commerce announced that industry income from overseas investments during 1946, excluding remittances, totaled approximately $7,000,000. The total included exact figures for seven major producing and distributing companies and one estimate for a major outfit.

The bulk of the $7,000,000 total came from common stock dividends, the Department said. No comparable figures are available for previous years.

Smith in Canada

(Continued from page 1)

home office, beside Smith, will be Spyros P. Skouras, president; W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager; Martin Moskowitz, executive assistant to Smith, and Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager.

Heading the Canadian sales group will be Sydney Samson, division manager, and branch managers V. M. Skorey, Calgary; Edward English, Montreal; R. G. March, St. John; H. J. Bailey, Toronto; J. E. Patterson, Vancouver; J. H. Huber, Winnipeg.

Previous meetings held this month were at the Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee, Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, and the Carlton in Washington.

Legality of Games

(Continued from page 1)

ored aspects of the state's lottery and gambling laws, stymies the bank night aspect of a 4,000-word opinion by Attorney General J. A. A. Burnquist made public last week, which was distributed to the state's 87 county attorneys in answer to their request made at Governor Youdahl's recent enforcement conference.

Last week's ruling, signed by Burnquist and William Green, assistant state's attorney general, listed "offering of a prize; awarding of the prize by chance, and giving of a consideration for an opportunity to win the prize" as the three elements constituting a lottery barred under state law.

Cited in the 4,000-word opinion specifically as lotteries and therefore illegal were: Giving of chances on coal or candy with tickets to a theatre, giving free tickets to patrons of a theatre entitling them to chances on a prize, or giving cards representing chances on a valuable prize with tickets of admission to an exhibition.

In face of the latest statement from the attorney general's office, the move reported under way last week for theatres to voluntarily drop bank nights is said to have been halted pending further clarification by Burnquist.

Resent High Prices

(Continued from page 1)

agers are to continue to be frequent visitors to Chicago theatres.

During the war, when many young people were given a considerable amount of spending money, it was not uncommon to see them paying advanced prices at Chicago loop theatres. Now, however, exhibitors generally admit a slack in 'teen-age loop visits. It is felt that more of the youths are resorting to neighborhood houses where prices are more in accord with their post-war pocketbooks.

A director of a prominent youth center observes that, "Most of my boys work part or full time during summer months for their date money. I've heard them say time and time again that they think it is foolish to pay high loop prices when they can wait a few weeks and see the same show here in the neighborhood for much less."

Plan for U. K. Levy

(Continued from page 1)

on the nature of the substitute plan and probably will not be pending a conference with the principal company executives in New York as well as Government officials in Washington. The latter phase strongly suggests consultation with Secretary of State Marshall.

Eric Johnston and his party were airborne last night on American Overseas Flight No. 51, which was due at La Guardia Field at 5:30 A.M.

Warner-Pathe Deal

(Continued from page 1)

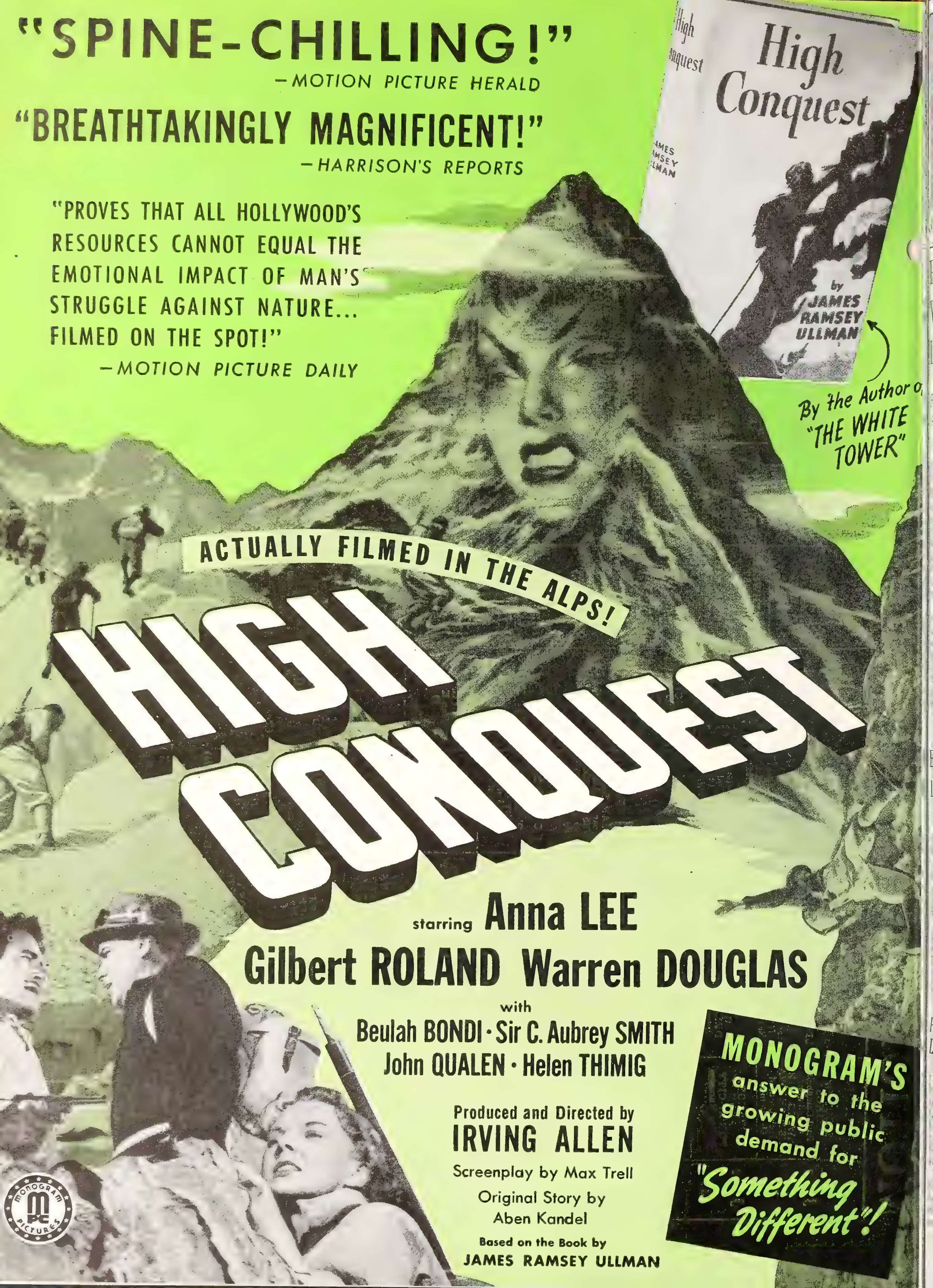
information of every kind and description and to circulate and distribute the same by motion pictures, television or any other means or methods. The charter specifically includes the right to carry on a television business and to own and operate television studios.

E. K. Hessberg, Warner home office attorney, recorded the papers.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
June 22	SPORT OF KINGS Paul Campbell D—68 min. SWING THE WESTERN WAY Jack Leonard O—66 min.	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)	CODE OF THE SADDLE Johnny Mack Brown O—53 min.	THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN Ray Milland Teresa Wright D—80 min. (4614) (Rev. 4/28/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/1/47)	SADDLE PALS Gene Autry O—72 min. (684) (Rev. 6/18/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Reissue) DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney D—70 min. (Rev. 3/13/45)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)	PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O—56 min. (753) (Rev. 6/30/47)	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)		THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D		(Reissue) MUTINY IN THE BIG HOUSE Charles Bickford D (Rev. 10/11/39)		GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams D—(711)	RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min. (666)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (719) (Rev. 2/3/41)		IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. (619)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	THUNDER-BOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754)	SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(July Releases) BOB, SON OF BATTLE (Color) Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)			POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		(Eagle-Lion) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min.	(Block 7)		(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D		NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)			WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min.	SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.		
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O	(August Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (Rec. 6/27/47)	FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—95 min.	(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)	(Hunt Stromberg) LURED Lucille Ball Charles Coburn D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	(August Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (Rev. 6/18/47)	CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O-M	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D (Rev. 7/7/47)	SONG OF THE WINCHESTER Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savage D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	(Eagle-Lion) GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (Rev. 6/17/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lili Palmer D	SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor C	
Aug. 24				VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)			RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	(August Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHOS KISSING HER NOW (Color) M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)		SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D 77 min.						CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)		(Benedict Bogeaus) CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft George Brent D		

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]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with
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John QUALEN · Helen THIMIG

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IRVING ALLEN
Screenplay by Max Trell
Original Story by
Aben Kandel
Based on the Book by
JAMES RAMSEY ULLMAN

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VOL. 62. NO. 19 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, JULY 28, 1947 TEN CENTS

Pathe News to Warner; First Issue August

Pathe Stays in Name; Ament Gets Top Spot

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Brothers, and Ned E. Depinet, vice-chairman of Radio-Keith-Orpheum, in a joint statement issued yesterday, announced anticipated contracts had been signed for acquisition of Pathe News by Warner. The formal statement followed on the heels of a forecast in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Friday that the deal would be announced momentarily.

The purchase included assets and equipment of the newsreel division of RKO Pathe and embraces those members of the personnel who elect to go over to Warner. However, it does not include RKO Pathe short subjects, its commercial films, its new studio in New York and other activities outside the newsreel.

Warner News, Inc., of course, will

(*Continued on page 7*)

Expect 'IA' to Claim 100 in Pathe Offices

One labor development growing out of the sale of the Pathe News to Warner Brothers is expected to be a claim for inclusion of about 100 employes in the present contract between WB and Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE.

Of the 200 employes of Pathe News, about one-half are already covered by contracts held by Locals No. 771, film editors and cutters; No. 52, studio mechanics and sound technicians; No. 644, cameramen, No. 306,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Pathe, Boston Bank Loan "Progressing"

Negotiations between Pathe Industries and the First National Bank of Boston for a $7,000,000 loan to be used to strengthen the former's working capital, "are progressing," C. Warren Sharpe, Pathe Industries treasurer, indicated here yesterday. Negotiations have been going on for several weeks.

The money would be earmarked for expansion purposes among Pathe production, distribution, laboratory and other subsidiaries. Producing affiliates include Eagle-Lion and PRC.

Rank in Sharp Dissent Over U. K. Tax Plan

By WILLIAM PAY

LONDON, July 27.—J. Arthur Rank entered the record on Friday with sharp opposition to the *ad valorem* tax proposed by Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton. Thereby he lined up with Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in voicing fear its adoption would retard the growth of British films in America.

"I am not an international political person, otherwise I'd be tempted to tell Dalton that, if he operates the proposed tax, American exhibitors might not be so happy and helpful as now," declared Rank, in braving the temptation. "To get results we must have the right playing time over the five American circuits and that will need continued goodwill. Personally, I should think long and hard before introducing a tax on American films which might endanger that goodwill."

Rank, moreover, made it clear he intends conveying to Dalton this view point, which develops out of his just completed 12,000 mile trip in the States and will stress the point that, for the few dollars which the Labor Government proposal might save by the new duty, they will get nothing in the end.

Flatly refusing to divulge a specific balance sheet of his American travels,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Coast Labor Under Eye of Film Heads

The labor situation in Hollywood, with particular reference to added production costs arising out of the new deal made with the Screen Actors' Guild and application of the Taft-Hartley law, is under review by company presidents. Since Senator Taft and Representative Hartley, authors of the legislation bearing their name, are on public record with lack of agreement over precisely what many

(*Continued on page 7*)

Expediter Approves 61 Theatre Projects

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The Office of the Housing Expediter from July 1 through July 18 approved 61 projects for construction, repair and remodeling of theatres. Total cost of

(*Continued on page 6*)

FILMS GIVEN WORLD ROLE: JOHNSTON

Plan Countering Dalton British Tax Seen Ready for Wednesday

By J. A. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, July 27. — Eric Johnston said Friday that he hopes to have a rough outline of an alternative to the British *ad valorem* tax plan ready to present to the MPA board on Wednesday.

At a full-scale press conference at MPA headquarters here, Johnston said it would be two to three weeks before such an alternative plan would be in final shape. Then, he indicated, it would be submitted to other producer organizations and distributors in an attempt to present a united front to the Dalton proposal.

Johnston added that, in drawing up the alternatives, he would consult other MPA officials and "possibly" State Department officials and industry counsel James F. Byrnes.

The MPA president admitted he

(*Continued on page 7*)

GoodmanNamedE-L Division Manager

Del Goodman has been named West Coast division manager of Eagle-Lion Films by A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president.

L. E. Goldhammer, who formerly held this position, has been promoted to the New York home office and is now concentrating on setting up national day-and-date bookings on "The Red Stallion."

Goodman has served in key sales positions for 20th Century-Fox and Paramount both in this country and abroad.

U. S. Will Curtail Data on Admissions

WASHINGTON, July 27.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics has been forced by reduced funds to revise its method of getting theatre admission price and other consumer price data, making it difficult to compare future admission price index figures with previous ones.

"We'll try to make our future figures as nearly comparable as possible,"

(*Continued on page 6*)

Industry Will Support Marshall Plan for a Revived Europe, He Says

By GENE ARNEEL

LA GUARDIA AIRPORT, N. Y. C., 3:56 A.M. (EST) Friday. — A program which appeared vague and not too far-reaching in meaning when he talked about it in London on Wednesday came into focus as a definite project of international significance when early this morning Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, disclosed that the U. S. motion picture industry will assert itself in international affairs with the production and global distribution of a series of films designed to promote support of Secretary of State George C. Marshall's plan for the rehabilitation of Europe.

The obviously travel-weary Johnston party, including Joyce O'Hara, and Miss Merrie Smith, assistant and secretary to Johnston, respectively, and Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA international division, descended upon the lonesome acres of La Guardia Field—lonesome and dismal at 3:56 A.M., EST—to be greeted by a solitary reporter, representing MOTION PICTURE DAILY; Mrs. Mayer and son William, and a full complement of U. S. Customs inspectors who found the party to be less stocked with clothing and miscellaneous items than

(*Continued on page 6*)

Warns Against Cutting Ads

In a letter to the advertising-publicity directors of all distributing companies, Century Theatres' advertising-publicity chief, Edward Schreiber, warns against cuts in advertising appropriations as being harmful to exhibitors and, in the final analysis, to the companies themselves.

Basing his observations on "widespread rumors" that distributors are

(*Continued on page 6*)

2 Reviews Today

"Wyoming" and "Heaven Only Knows" are reviewed on page 4.

Personal Mention

BERT SANFORD of Altec Service, is a grandpappy, his daughter, Patricia, Mrs. Andrew Donnelly, Jr., having given birth to a daughter, Gael, at St. Vincent's Hospital here.

•

E. V. Richards, Jr., president of the Paramount-Richards Co., New Orleans, was a guest of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker, president of Eastern Air Lines, on two round-trips between New Orleans and here on a new-type Constellation.

•

Spyros P. Skouras, president; Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager; W. C. Gehring, Martin Moskowitz and Peter Levathes are among home office officials who will return here today from 20th Century-Fox's regional meeting in Canada.

•

James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will return to New York today from the Coast. Arthur Sachson, general sales manager, and Alfred Crown, foreign sales manager, will accompany him.

•

Norton V. Ritchey, Monogram International president, will accompany Steve Broidy, Monogram-Allied Artists president, to Europe. They will leave here Friday.

•

Douglas J. Granville, recently appointed Warner supervisor for India, Singapore and Siam, left New York by plane over the weekend for his headquarters in Bombay.

•

Jan Grippo, Monogram producer, has delayed his trip here from the Coast because of the illness of his wife, agent Flo Browne.

•

Lou Astor, Columbia circuit sales executive, flew to the Coast from New York yesterday for a two-week tour of the company's Western offices.

•

Harry Ehrreich, RKO Radio's foreign department service manager, left here yesterday by plane for Mexico City.

•

Walter Blake, Donahue and Coe representative at the Enterprise studios, returns to the Coast today from New York.

•

Herbert Horstmeier, former Universal office manager and head booker, Cleveland, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. in a similar capacity.

•

A. M. Goodman, United Artists branch manager in Cleveland, has observed his 20th anniversary with the company.

•

Fred Meyers, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, is in Pittsburgh from New York.

•

Marcel Pagnol, French producer, is scheduled to arrive here on Sept. 6.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

NO doubt all of you have heard of the durable "Casey at the Bat" and his heart-rending debacle, or recall the saga as an effective sequence in Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music" of last year.

All in the industry know that other Casey, who for so many years was a vigorous and important part of show business and who but recently retired as studio labor relations representative in Hollywood.

One small admirer of the industry's Casey, Pat, read the trade paper accounts of the tributes paid to him at the West Coast dinner on the occasion of his retirement. She is 14-year old Laura Rilander, daughter of Pat Casey's New York secretary. The tributes, and the occasion for them, moved Laura to express herself in verse. Herewith the result:

The Casey Who Never Struck Out

When the angels up in heaven
heard of Casey's bitter fate
They decided to restore the name
to its erstwhile famous state.
So they sent to earth Pat Casey,
who since then has topped them all,
For Casey always made a hit—
he never missed the ball.

He helped to build an industry, he
sought no word of praise;
He added color to its past with
genial, winning ways.
The countless folk who are his
friends, the people great and small,
Are proof that he has gained in
them the greatest wealth of all.

His tall, majestic figure and his
ruddy, smiling face
Have always been a welcome sight
at every conference place.
For they know a truce is near
when they hear Pat Casey say,
"Let's sit around a table, boys, and
work this out today."

'Tis rare that we can find a man
so loved by everyone,
A man who can look back with
pride upon the things he's done.
Can look ahead into the years
without a qualm or fear,
A man in whom the Christmas
spirit resides throughout the year.

For on the Lord's great scoreboard that records the greatest game,
There are no errors listed beneath
Pat Casey's name,
And there it is recorded, and by
a golden pen, no doubt,
That he's the Casey-at-the-bat who
never once struck out.

Laura Rilander

There are many inside and outside the industry who will applaud Laura's appraisal of Pat Casey.

Apart from his widely known work on the Hollywood labor front, Casey's private benefactions and the endless help he has gladly given to others over the years, though beyond enumeration, have never been heralded. Perhaps, because he'd break the neck of the character who set out to publicize that part of his private life.

• •

The tedious work of organizing the Motion Picture Foundation is nearing its ending. Only a few more exchange territories remain to be organized before a national meeting of trustees can be convened to perfect the national organization.

Praiseworthy as is the Foundation plan and its innumerable possibilities of bringing important humanitarian and social benefits to the needy among those whom the industry calls its own, great credit is due those few individuals who conceived the project, made it possible through their support, and who have given generously of their time and talent in guiding it through the formative stages.

As in all great undertakings, it is the labor of a few which makes possible help for the many.

• •

Audience polls are on the decline in popularity as a means of planning the marketing of motion pictures, if what several advertising-publicity directors tell this department is at all typical of the attitude of the industry as a whole.

Little has been learned from the polls, they say, which was not common knowledge beforehand or which could not have been learned by reviewing selling and marketing experience with comparable problems involved.

What new material is developed, the criticisms run, is largely too theoretical in character to be practically applied.

• •

Ever since Bob Wilby of Atlanta set himself up as an authority on British pictures and Britain's economic situation because his father came from Yorkshire, some of Paramount's Southern theatre partners refer to him as "The Flying Yorkshireman."

Newsreel Parade

TRAGEDY in China and Palestine is spotlighted in current newsreels. Other happenings abroad which were recorded are Madam Eva Peron's visit to Paris, a mass gymnastics celebration in Switzerland, the Jap Emperor inspecting a new dam, and Australian army maneuvers and a kan[illegible]o roundup. On the domestic front, [illegible]lights include shots of newly-appointed Secretary of War Kenneth C. Royall, beauty contests and sports items. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 95—China floods bring more misery. Jewish immigrants take off for Haifa after bitter Palestine fighting. Kenneth C. Royall becomes new U. S. Secretary of War. Jap Emperor inspects new dam. Weapons of war tested in peace in U. S. and Australia. Sports: 28,000 Swiss athletes in mass gymnastics; veteran fishermen go after giant shark. North Carolina bathing beauties have a snowball fight.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 293—*S.S. Exodus* tragedy in drama of Palestine. Floods in China. Kenneth C. Royall, new U. S. Secretary of War. Jet engines tested for health hazards. "Operation Ice" at North Carolina's Atlantic Beach. Six-foot girls in Hollywood beauty contest. 28,000 Swiss athletes celebrate "gymnastics day." Polo school at Purchase, N. Y.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 96—Japan's new dam. Beauty contest for six-foot girls. Palestine *S.S. Exodus* incident stirs new crisis. Paramount's "Welcome Stranger" has premiere in Detroit. Youthful pair invent "world's strongest glue." Flood adds to China's woes.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 98—Kenneth C. Royall takes over U. S. Secretary of War post. Jap Emperor visits huge new dam. Madam Eva Peron in Paris. Australian kangaroo roundup. Vast floods in China.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 59—Take desperate measures to save China's rice crop. Round up suspects in Palestine as terror continues. New Secretary of War—Kenneth C. Royall. Jap Emperor inspects new Sagama Dam. Beauty contest for six-foot girls in Hollywood. College students learn polo. Model air show at Alexandra, Va. Stock car race.

Sears Goes Mystery On Hollywood Trip

Hollywood, July 27.—Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of United Artists distribution, declared here on Friday that he will not divulge the reason for his hurried trip here until plans on which he is working are finalized. He declined to predict how long this may take or when he will return to New York.

On Monday, however, he will address all UA producers at a general meeting in headquarters of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers on the company's position in Britain, where difficulties in getting playing time over the Odeon and Gaumont British circuits reputedly continue unsolved.

Variety Fund Aided

Albany, N. Y., July 27.—The local Variety Club will receive a minimum of $2,000 for permitting use of its name in connection with the "Better Homes Exposition" being staged here in late October, and not $20,000 as previously reported. Sponsors of the affair are the *Knickerbocker News* and the Women's Club. The money will go to the club's Heart Fund.

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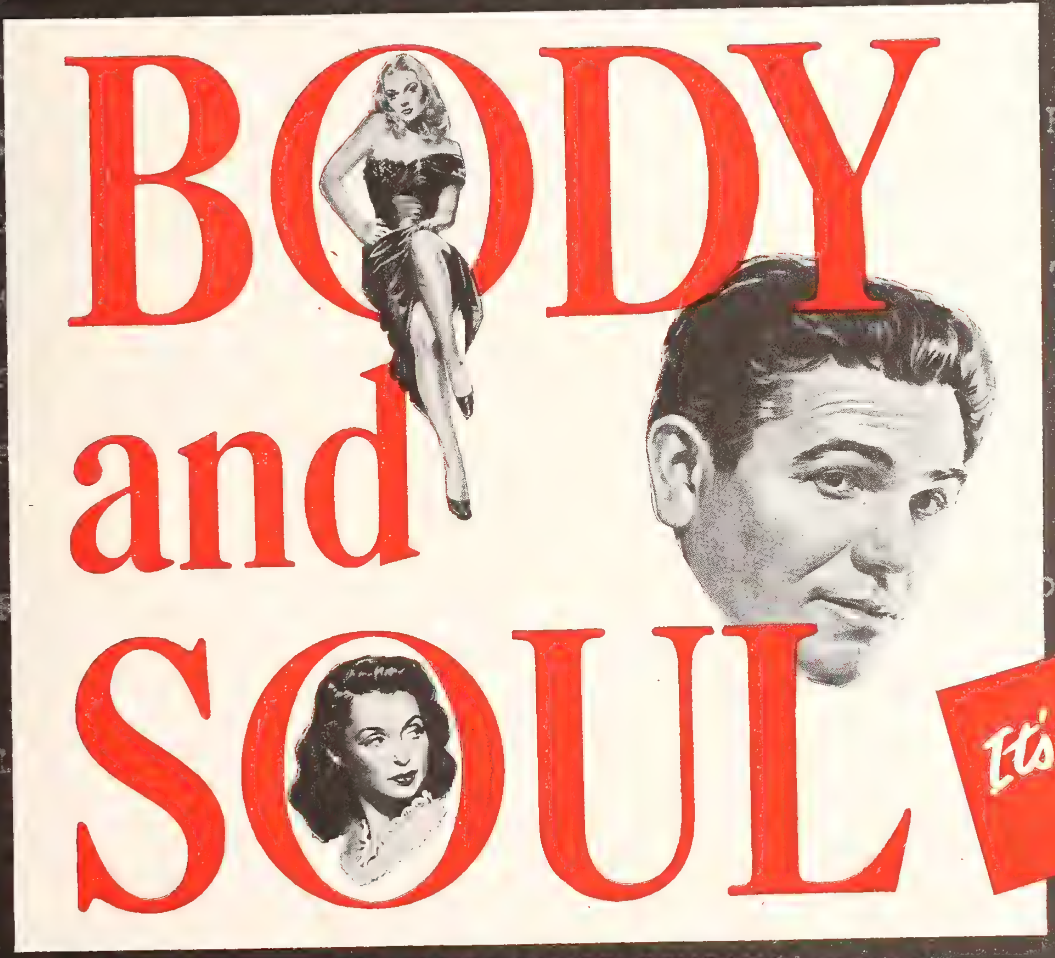
EVERY BODY IS SOLD ON



It's all for you... from UA!

The ENTERPRISE STUDIOS present

JOHN GARFIELD • LILLI PALMER

in

"Body and Soul"

and introducing HAZEL BROOKS as "ALICE"

with ANNE REVERE • WILLIAM CONRAD • LLOYD GOFF • JOSEPH PEVNEY • CANADA LEE • Directed by ROBERT ROSSEN • Produced by BOB ROBERTS • Original Screen Play by ABRAHAM POLONSKY

Russ Wehrle Charles Bierbauer Ward
John A. Blatt F.E. McClell
Vance M Brown William Gray Ma
ge M. A. R. Boyd Harry Long
Epstein Walsh Lewen Pizor R. T
Feinstein John H. Harris
B.B. Anderson Charles Kl
berlain Robert Coleman Claude Rob
ugh Julius M. Gordon Henry Hall
ge Joe Lawrence R.J. O'Donnell
E. Pitts Sam Bendheim Jr.
r Perry W. Dalke J. Henrick L.V. Johnson
Ashton H. Ringling T.M. Ellis Jr. J. Yeo
Fred F.J. McWilliams
insworth B. Marcus J. McMa
J. E L. Macklin Geor
Perlewit Tom Hanifin Walte
S. Esk John Benas Berna
Harr Motty Polen Wi
J. Ea W.H. Sharp A. En
Powers berman Gos
M.A. F ise
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Producing Company Formed in Palestine

Norman Lourie, South African exhibitor, will head a new producing firm in Palestine, in association with Joseph Krumgold, vice-president in charge of production, and Victor M. Ratner, formerly CBS director of promotion, Lourie disclosed here yesterday.

Lourie said that S. N. Behrman, playwright will go to Palestine in October to write a scenario for a feature, and that Kurt Weill, composer, will write the music for one of two films planned for early production. The firm will have studios in Jerusalem, and offices here.

Lourie also disclosed that he, together with William Boxer and S. R. Potter, have formed Associated Cinemas of South Africa, to operate an independent circuit, which already consists of 11 theatres. Associated Cinemas plans to construct 35 theatres in South Africa.

Lourie said he had also formed a firm in Tel Aviv, called Middle East Film Distributors, Ltd., and has bought 10 Selznick reissues to be distributed in that territory.

Palestine Films will direct its product, in English, primarily at the American market, Lourie said. Lourie said that the firm already represents Paramount and RKO Pathe newsreels in Palestine, and that it had been approached by other companies. Backing for the next two films will come from the Palestine labor organization, Histadruth, and the Palestine Foundation movement.

The first film produced by PFI, "The House in the Desert," a three-reeler, has just been completed, and arrangements are being made for release in the United States. He hopes to arrange distribution with United Artists.

Lourie, who is associated with 20th Century-Fox in the operation of a theatre in Johannesburg, said that Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, may visit South Africa in January or February. Lourie returned to Palestine yesterday.

Chicago Owner Girds For Clearance Battle

CHICAGO, July 27.—A. Brussells, Chicago attorney, has been retained by Adelphia Theatre owner Ludwig Sussman to handle adjustment of clearances and other factors of the so-called Chicago system of distribution.

A preliminary investigation has been launched by Brussells and letters of complaint have been mailed to possible defendants.

Study Petrillo Income

WASHINGTON, July 27. — Rep. Kearns has revealed here that the Treasury Department is studying income taxes of James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians. Kearns said that the Treasury had asked for a transcript of testimony about his income and taxes given by Petrillo before a House labor sub-committee.

ATOI Meets Nov. 18-20

INDIANAPOLIS, July 27.—The annual fall convention of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana has been set for Nov. 18-20 at the Hotel Antlers.

Reviews

"Wyoming"

(Republic)

A STANDOUT Western with a fund of known commercial values that suggest top playing time in any number of situations, "Wyoming" appears to be the result of skilled production showmanship.

The screenplay, by Lawrence Hazard and Gerald Geraghty is an interesting affair with an assortment of good plot situations that culminate quite plausibly in many flurries of robust activity and tense excitement, punctuating the narrative but never interfering with it.

A good cast enacts the tale of an ambitious Wyoming rancher who finds it difficult to recognize the rights of homesteaders when the state is admitted to the union. William Elliott plays the part well enough. Vera Ralston, in a dual role, starts off as Elliott's ailing wife who dies early in the picture, and returns subsequently as his grown daughter. John Carroll, as Elliott's foreman, and Albert Dekker, cause of all the trouble, discharge their duties with finesse. George (Gabby) Hayes and Mario Ouspenskaya in other feature assignments are equally good.

The film's camera work is noticeably effective, particularly in one splendidly-staged sequence which focuses on a huge herd of cattle being driven by rustlers. Core of the plot is Dekker's efforts to pit the ranchers against the homesteaders while he grabs the prized steers. Miss Ralston and Carroll provide the romantic twists.

Joseph Kane produced and directed a colorful and important outdoor attraction in "Wyoming."

Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 1, 1947.

GENE ARNEEL

"Heaven Only Knows"

(Seymour Nebenzal-United Artists)

STORIES involving intervention of Providence in the affairs of mortals must necessarily be presented delicately and without cause for misunderstanding. But whether Seymour Nebenzal, in his production of "Heaven Only Knows" with such marquee names as Robert Cummings and Brian Donlevy, has succeeded in accomplishing this is open to question. Sensitively performed though it is by its players, the story wanders from an opening of gentle fantasy into Western melodrama, in which scenes intended to convey religious feeling verge on the threshold of poor taste. Plausibility is also strained in several sequences.

The story, with a hint of "Here Comes Mr. Jordan," opens in "Heaven," where Robert Cummings, portraying the Archangel Michael, has discovered an error in the Book of Life. Because of this error, Donlevy is wandering about without a soul, living an evil life as proprietor of a Montana saloon. Cummings is delegated to travel to earth to rectify the mistake and to lead Donlevy on his intended road to a highly worthy life. He finds Donlevy involved in a battle with a rival saloon operator, Bill Goodwin.

Cummings saves Donlevy's life accidentally and soon is a trusted friend. He succeeds in his purpose of bringing Donlevy out of his evil existence, influencing him to perform two heroic acts and leading to a happy finale with Donlevy about to wed Jorja Curtright, the town school teacher.

One questionable sequence involves a gunfight between Donlevy and Goodwin, in which a sudden flash of sunlight blinds Goodwin and enables Donlevy to shoot and kill his rival. It is suggested that the sudden glare is induced by Divine intervention. The portrayal of the struggle between good and evil is certainly not clearly illustrated at this point, since both Donlevy and Goodwin had been presented as villains.

Albert S. Rogell directed from an original story by Aubrey Wisberg, and Ernest Haycox handled the scenario treatment. Stuart Erwin and Edgar Kennedy had little to do in their portrayals.

Running time, 96 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

No Germany Filming 'Til RKO, Para. Quit

WASHINGTON, July 27.—Allied Military Government, U. S., will not permit any motion picture company to shoot scenes in occupied Germany until RKO Radio and Paramount have completed currently planned shooting schedules there, the War Department announced at the weekend. Overcrowded conditions and billeting facilities in the occupied area are responsible for the decision, War Department spokesmen said.

A communique from AMGUS stated that permission was given "reluctantly" to RKO and Paramount to shoot scenes for two films whose scenes are laid in occupied Germany. Both companies were instructed to bring their own raw stock and production materials as well as their own motor transportation, since none is available in Germany at the present time.

Ruth to Advise on Film

HOLLYWOOD, July 27. — Roy Del Ruth has reshuffled his production schedule and has set his projected production for Allied Artists release, "The Life of Babe Ruth," to follow his next, "Red Light," with Ruth reporting to Del Ruth later to act as technical adviser on his screen biography.

Open 'Unconquered' Oct. 3

A two-month advertising, publicity and exploitation campaign by Paramount for "Unconquered," Technicolor production, will reach its climax with the American premiere at Loew's Penn Theatre in Pittsburgh on Oct. 3.

Cinema Stamp Meeting

The Cinema Stamp Collectors will hold its next meeting at the Astor Hotel here on Wednesday evening.

Hollywood

July 27

SOON to return to the cameras, following the recent birth of her daughter, Bette Davis will star in Warners' "Winter Meeting," adapted from the novel by Ethel Vance, [illegible] Henry Blanke as producer. [illegible] Davis' last starring role, before her temporary retirement, was in "Deception," which Blanke also produced.

●

Story purchases have been announced from many quarters. RKO Radio acquired "The Education of the Heart," a drama of professional football playing and one of the first of this theme to be planned as a film. Irwin Shaw is the author and it will be given top casting and production, with Robert Sparks as producer. . . . An original musical, by Jerry Wald, Warner producer, has been purchased by Michael Curtiz, to follow Curtiz' currently filming "Romance in High C," as his third independent production for Warner release. . . . A Ben Hecht story, "Miracle in the Rain," was bought by Benedict Bogeaus as a starring vehicle for Ida Lupino. It will be the first film to be produced by Arcadia Productions, recently organized by Bogeaus and Miss Lupino.

●

Republic plans to glorify the Texas Rangers with "The Saga of the Rangers," original by John K. Butler and Gerald Geraghty which the North Hollywood studio has acquired. Joe Kane will produce and direct, with William Elliott and John Carroll set for starring roles. . . . Director Henry King will follow "Captain from Castile" with "Spoonhandle," novel of New England and Cape Cod. Dana Andrews and Anne Baxter will head an all-star cast, with Sam Engel as producer, for 20th Century-Fox.

●

Warners deny previously published reports that they have relinquished rights to "Silver Lining," original based on the life and career of Marilyn Miller. It remains their property and will be produced by Jerry Wald. . . . Next production for Ernst Lubitsch at 20th-Fox will be "Lady in Ermine," which he will also direct. It will be a drama with music. . . . Irving Rapper will direct "Christopher Blake" for Warner Brothers, with Ranald MacDougall as producer. Rapper recently finished "Voice of the Turtle" for the same studio.

●

Twentieth Century-Fox has handed George Jessel a new five-year contract as a producer. His first assignment under the new pact will be "Waltz into Darkness," from the new William Irish novel. Jessel is currently producing "Nightmare Alley" for the studio. . . . Al Lewis, producer for Universal-International, has obtained release from his contract there, to enter independent production. . . . Richard Sale will direct "Campus Honeymoon" for Republic. A former screen writer, this will be Sale's second directing assignment.

●

Universal-International has signed Vincent Price to portray Boss Tweed in the Sigmund Romberg musical, "Up in Central Park," which will be produced in Technicolor by Karl Tunberg, with William Seiter as director.

W. J. McG.

SCORE WITH 4 MORE!

NOW... ON THE SCREEN!

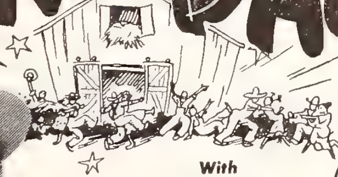
ERNEST TUBB

SENSATIONAL RADIO AND RECORDING STAR!

America's Outstanding Singer and Writer of Western Folk Songs

His Decca Records Sell in the Millions!

"HOLLYWOOD BARN DANCE"



With
LORI TALBOTT
RED HERRON
EARLE HODGINS
HELEN BOYCE
PHILHARMONIC TRIO

Director B. B. RAY · *Producer* JACK SCHWARZ

18 Back-home harmonies —including—
"Walking the Floor Over You"
"Oakie Boogie"
"Old Indians Never Die"
"Swell San Angelo"
"If It's A Dream"
"Let's Pretend"
"Topsy Turvy"

Kiddin the "Killers

FROM SCANTIES AND PANTIES TO GUNS AND GIGGLES!

"KILLER DILL"

With
STUART ERWI
ANNE GWYNNI
FRANK ALBERTSO
MIKE MAZURKI
DOROTHY GRANGER
MILBURN STONE
ANTHONY WARDE

Producer
MAX M. KING

Director
LEWIS D. COLLI

2 TOP-FLIGHT 40 MIN. STREAMLINERS · DRAMATIZING THE HEADLINES!

"THE HAT BOX MYSTERY"

Both Starring
TOM NEAL
PAMELA BLAKE
ALLEN JENKINS
VIRGINIA SALE
Director
LAMBERT HILLYER

"THE CASE OF THE BABY SITTER"

Distributed by

SCREEN GUILD Productions, Inc.

Home Office: 346 So. La Brea Ave., Hollywood, Calif.—Foreign Dep't.: 723 7th Ave., New York City.—Cable: "Guildfilms."

World Role

(*Continued from page 1, col. 4*)

they had when embarking on the tour of Europe. In Oslo, impoverished natives had ransacked their belongings and made off with a diamond ring of Miss Smith's and various pieces of apparel. A similar raid was made on their plane in Warsaw but this was thwarted by airline personnel.

Newsreel cameramen subsequently entered the airport scene and for purposes of colorful coverage asked reporters to appear before the lenses with Johnston, to pop pre-arranged questions. With the MOTION PICTURE DAILY representative being the only one present to accommodate, Mayer and his son, at Johnston's suggestion, obligingly picked up pencil and pad, stepped under the kleig lights and looked at Johnston inquiringly.

To Boost Marshall Plan

The industry program lending its full weight to the Marshall idea will be "vast in scope and of tremendous importance," Johnston asserted, adding that the films—"probably shorts and trailers"—will be aimed at acquainting all peoples with the near-chaotic economic conditions of European countries and what he holds to be the vital need for adoption of the plan. Johnston said, in effect, that he sees the State Department chief's proposal as the only likely means of averting international disaster.

Johnston agreed when it was suggested that the program constitutes a radical departure from conventional film industry activities.

He said the nature of the subject matter has yet to be determined and that this, as well as production and distribution details, will be taken up with the MPA board, at a meeting in New York on Wednesday, and with other industry factors outside the MPA fold.

Additionally, he said, he will confer with General Marshall on the most advisable film approach to the European rehabilitation cause.

Appearing before the cameras of Movietone, Universal, Paramount and News of the Day, Johnston spoke briefly and generally on the industry's attitude favoring Marshall's suggested remedy for the economic ills of Europe. Here he made no mention of the production plans.

Only Rent in 'Iron Curtain'

Also for the newsreels he commented on the role of the American film and newsreel as the "only contact the peoples behind the 'iron curtain' have with the U. S." To this he added: "I hope that we continue that contact because we want these people to know about America and when they know about us we will have a better opportunity of preserving peace."

Taking up the matter of prospects for Hollywood product abroad, Johnston said his swing around 11 European nations had gratifying results and he now believes, he said, the commercial value of the foreign market will be "greatly increased" over the pre-war level within five years. A query as to progress in reduction or elimination of present trade barriers brought from the MPA chief the comment that he concerned himself primarily with general economic factors within the framework of each country, indicating that the soundness of the financial operations abroad will mean prosperity for U. S. films as well as business in general.

Mayer cited one instance, in Sweden, in which negotiations have begun leading to an open market in that country. These negotiations will be taken up by Fayette Allport, MPA foreign representative, next month, Mayer added.

Johnston returned to the States bitterly resentful of the efforts of Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton to impose *ad valorem* duties on American product. He said he will endeavor to join all production-distribution of this country in a united fight against the Dalton measure and made specific mention of Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent M. P. Producers, in revealing his intentions of taking up the matter with others outside MPA. He said his present plan is to draw up a counter proposal for submission to the British. It is understood Johnston has between 10 and 15 ideas on the matter.

3:56 A. M. EST: Johnston Returns

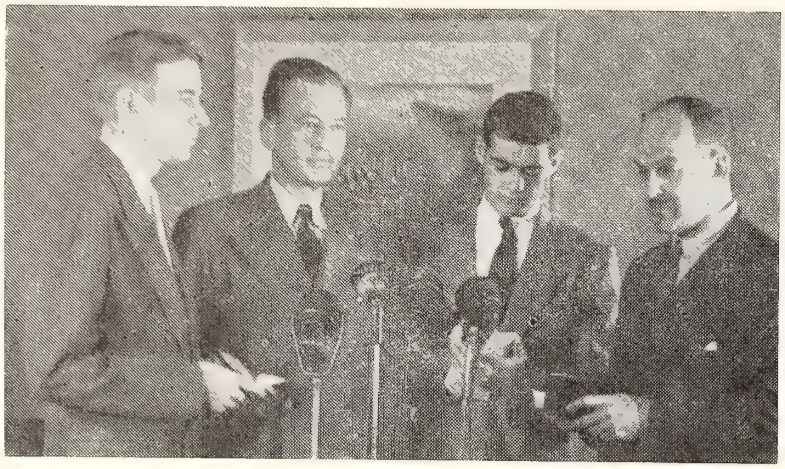


Photo by *Universal Newsreel*

President of the Motion Picture Association as he arrived in New York from an extended European tour Friday morning. Left to right: Gene Arneel, **Motion Picture Daily** ***reporter and only newspaper man on the scene; Eric Johnston; William Mayer and his father, Gerald Mayer, head of the MPA international division.***

U.S. to Curtail Data

(*Continued from page 1*)

an official said, "but they won't be completely so."

Previously, the bureau gathered admission price data from 34 cities, covering 21 cities monthly, with an additional 13 cities every third month. Now only 10 will be covered all of the time, each eight of the remaining 24 cities covered every third month.

The 10 cities which will be covered monthly are: Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Set Two for Gotham

"Children on Trial," which deals with juvenile delinquency, and "School for Danger," a film on British Intelligence operations, have been booked to open early next month at the Gotham Theatre, New York. English Films, Inc., is the distributor of the pictures.

Hoffberg Acquires Six Foreign Films

"L'Esclave Blanch" with Vivian Romance, "Dram de Shanghai" with Louis Jouvet, both French films; "Thunder in the Hills," Czech film, and Richard Tauber-German language musical, have been added to the list of imported releases of Hoffberg Productions, for 1947-48.

In addition, J. H. Hoffberg has renewed releasing arrangements for James Mason's "Secret of Stamboul," Rex Harrison's "School for Husbands," and Deborah Kerr's "Courageous Mr. Penn." Hoffberg now lists 38 French films, 12 Italian films (including six new ones) and 20 others, in Polish, Czech, Spanish and German.

Schoenstadt to Get Product from Majors

CHICAGO, July 27.—The Schoenstadt circuit, on behalf of its Piccadilly Theatre, is now able to acquire product from all major distributors, except Paramount, in "a week," it was announced here. This provides the Piccadilly with the same playing dates as the Avalon and Southtown, competing theatres.

However, as yet no settlement has been made with Paramount or the Balaban and Katz circuit. Originally, a $6,500,000 anti-trust suit was filed by Schoenstadt against all major distributors and the Balaban and Katz and Warner circuits. No cash settlement has been made and none is expected. Paramount and B. and K. are expected to fall in line momentarily.

61 Theatre Projects

(*Continued from page 1*)

the approved projects is $1,682,205.

During the same period, the office denied 70 theatre projects which would have cost $3,233,412.

These are the first projects to be processed since the passage of the new rent and housing law, which removed Government controls from all building except amusement and recreational construction.

Won't Enter the Arena: Johnston

LA GUARDIA AIRPORT, N. Y. C.—Eric Johnston's public declaration disavowing political ambitions—"I will not live on either side of Pennsylvania Avenue" still holds, the president of the Motion Picture Association said here Friday morning on his ret[illegible] from Europe. "There will be [illegible] draft," he countered when questioned what his reaction would be in this event.

WASHINGTON, July 27.—Eric Johnston assumed a different approach to a possible future in politics at his press interview here Friday when, in response to a question on the possibility of running for the vice-presidency on the Republican tickets, he said:

"It is inbred in every American male to want to live in the White House."

Thereafter, he added he did not believe he had any "chance or opportunity," observing, "I have no delegates."

Besides, he continued, he is immersed in the film business and intends to continue in it. A reporter asked his plan if he were drafted. Johnston, grinning broadly, replied: "I have no desire at the present time to accept any political office whether it's the vice-presidency or anything else." Later he added this will hold as of June, 1948.

Warns on Ad Cuts

(*Continued from page 1*)

considering cutting or already have cut advertising budgets, Schreiber wrote:

"It is no secret that present-day patrons are equipped with some sort of 'Geiger counters' which unfailingly warns them away from theatres exhibiting inadequately sold pictures. We all know that they show marked indifference to certain films. Shall we, then, compound this indifference by releasing films in a vacuum? The answer to that one is no! As a matter of fact, since consumer choosiness is so apparent, it would be logical to expect that budgets be upped," Schreiber declared, adding:

"There has existed for a long while the erroneous belief that by the time a film gets to a subsequent-run theatre, its advertising has divided the moviegoing public into two sharply defined groups: Those who 'want to see' it and those who 'don't want to see' it. These two groups do exist, surely, but there is a third group, those who are on the fence, neither sold nor unsold, who can be shifted into the 'want to sees' by an extended advertising campaign.

"If your advertising escorts a picture beyond the special and first-run engagements, it is my belief that you will escort it into considerable velvet," Schreiber concluded.

Selznick Signs Oldati

HOLLYWOOD, July 27. — Mario Oldati, Italian director, has been signed by David O. Selznick. Due to arrive here from Rome in September, Oldati will write for Selznick as well as direct.

Tradeshow 'Harvest'

Paramount will trade screen Robert Fellows' "Wild Harvest," starring Alan Ladd and Dorothy Lamour, in all branch areas on Aug. 1.

Counter Plan

(*Continued from page* 1, *col.* 3)

had not presented any alternative in England, but had merely protested the Dalton plan as being impossible to administer.

Asked what advice he would give American film companies if the Dalton plan went through, Johnston declared, "I haven't crossed that bridge yet. I hope we can get something better." He told the British, he said, that "there must be a better plan," and the British replied that they'd be happy to see it.

The Dalton proposal, Johnston added, was contrary to the spirit of the Geneva Trade Conference, the 1938 Reciprocal Trade Agreement, and the British loan pact.

Expanding Market Abroad

In other developments at the conference, Johnston indicated a satisfactory settlement had been reached on the entire German film question and declared there was an expanding market for American films in the 11 countries visited, despite growing domestic production. He urged full support of the Marshall Plan and a special session of Congress to implement the plan as soon as the European countries had made known their needs.

Johnston said he had "very satisfactory and friendly" talks in Berlin with Gen. Clay and Col. Textor, in charge of the motion picture program, and indicated that these were the points of agreement:

There will be no showing of export and Nazi-made films.

Films made in the future may be exported, but Johnston intimated not for some time.

A license will be issued to MPEA, perhaps in the next few months, to distribute films in Germany after further details are worked out in AMG headquarters and with the British.

Eric Pommer will continue as the American in charge of German production.

Johnston said he thought everything had been straightened out in Berlin and there was no further need for conversations here with the War Department.

Sees Overseas Competition

Johnston said he foresaw much competition from growing film industries overseas, but that it did not necessarily mean a decline in American rentals. "I believe," he declared, "that competition broadens the market, increases the demand, and improves the product." He added more people would develop the film habit by seeing their home-produced films, and thus a better market for American films would be created.

Johnston repeated statements made in England that execution of the Dalton plan would set a pattern for other countries, and that eventually America might have to join the parade. He said he wouldn't go so far as to say U. S. film companies would cancel their contracts with J. Arthur Rank, Sir Alexander Korda and other British interests, but "they certainly won't feel very friendly toward continuing the program."

British grosses here this year, he declared, are going to exceed "by a good deal" the $10,000,000 estimate he made last fall, and that they would be as much as 50 per cent higher again for 1948. Next year, he declared, British pictures will gross between $15,000,000 and $25,000,000—if they're good.

Johnston said that, as far as films were concerned, "the Geneva Conference is on dead center." So far, he explained, they have been completely subordinated to the discussion of other products such as wool, over which there is a sharp difference of opinion.

He declared that he was favorably impressed with the State Department's Information Service wherever he went, and that the U. S. cannot afford to let the program bog down over personalities and methods. "The people are eager for news of our doings. Never before did we need an information service more."

Johnston said he hoped to present to President Truman this week the Polish film he has brought back, "Warsaw Dead," "Warsaw Lives," and "Warsaw in the Spring." "Then," he added, "I hope to steal it from the President and send it to Hollywood to show producers there."

He singled out for praise the progress of Russian film production in studios in Prague and elsewhere in Czechoslovakia. "They're not mediocre," he said; "they're good. That's the kind of competition we face all over the world."

Johnston declared he would recommend to Hollywood that producers take steps to produce more realistic films, as desired by the countries he visited. He admitted he had no specific suggestions ready, but said he would have after consulting his notes.

Pathe to Warner

(*Continued from page* 1)

be the subsidiary corporation which will operate the newsreel, to be known as Warner Pathe News, and appear in August, and not November as first planned. Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager for Warner, will be president and James Allen, vice-president and general manager, as previously reported.

Walter Ament, currently vice-president of RKO Pathe, joins the Warner newsreel organization as vice-president in charge of production. Other Pathe News executives expected to join Warner in the transfer are Alfred Butterfield, Harold Bonafield and John Le Vien. Ned Buddy, who recently joined Warner as assistant to Allen, continues in the capacity.

Actual physical transfer will take place about mid-August. Headquarters will be maintained without change.

The deal marks culmination of negotiations reputedly on and off for about three years. At one time, Warner was negotiating for the purchase of Universal Newsreel, having originally planned to develop its own staff and facilities and subsequently abandoning the move because of the manpower situation.

Coast Labor

(*Continued from page* 1)

aspects of their legal brainchild means, executives in this industry find themselves in the same general position.

Y. Frank Freeman of Paramount, and E. J. Mannix of M-G-M were here on a brief visit from Hollywood last week to explain the SAG deal and to outline the crafts situation at the studios. It is understood no decisions of any nature were reached and that the discussions were essentially exploratory.

Rank Dissents

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rank did state, however, that he is immensely satisfied with progress thus far rolled up in the United States. Dollar revenue is reaching him weekly, he added. April remittances were 20 per cent greater than March's and there has been a similar increase each successive month, with July running 30 per cent over June. He went so far as to state "several million dollars" will come back to London ultimately, but declined to be held to a specific amount.

28 Releases in U. S. Next Year

In 1948, it is Rank's hope to release 12 attractions through Universal, eight through Eagle-Lion and eight through the Prestige Pictures division of Universal for a combined total of 28. He also reiterated his policy of not sending to America any product which he feels will not make its mark there.

Rank was quite frank in acknowledging his understanding of the fact Americans prefer glamour and films that move fast and are endowed with what he called "simple emotions." He stated he will endeavor to cater to that demand in the future. Nevertheless, such subjects as "Brief Encounter" are returning satisfactory results through selected playdates, he observed. He reported the smaller towns in America continued to be allergic to the British accent and to the lack of speed employed by British actors in delivery of their lines. "We must face facts. The great mass of American cinema-goers so far have been accustomed to their own pictures. It is still not easy to win them over to ours. This is bound to take time," Rank said. Breaking into areas like South America where audiences already have seen product other than Hollywood's has proved easier, he said.

Denies UK Treasury Helped

Rank was bitter in his denunciation of an insinuation made in the House of Commons that the British Treasury had advanced him dollar credits to assist in his campaign for American playing time. "I have never taken a single dollar from the Treasury for any of my expenses in America. Every dollar I've spent overseas was earned by me over there." He added he does not ask the Treasury what to spend on exploitation in America although he admitted he had discussed arriving at a ceiling with the Government.

However, Rank went on to explain he is spending approximately one-quarter of the normal figure spent by American companies to merchandise their own product. "If any of you went to America and tried to sell British automobiles in an open market against long-established competition, you'd take far longer extracting dollars than we have done in the film industry," Rank stressed.

He was also caustic about the suggestion of Brendan Bracken, M.P., that American distributors are charging up unscrupulous expense against Rank pictures and, in this connection, had this to say, "Perhaps Bracken would like to come here and tell what he thinks exploitation amounted to. He hasn't the foggiest notion." Probing this point further, Rank stated his American advertising, exploitation and release prints did not exceed 50 per cent of the gross.

Of the first batch of Hollywood players contracted for production here, Bing Crosby will be first to arrive. He is due here next spring and will be followed shortly thereafter by Claudette Colbert. Deanna Durbin also will make a film here. Rank explained the purpose behind this move was to induce American audiences to patronize such attractions and was firm in the conviction he can build British pictures the further by an interchange of talent between London and Hollywood.

English Films Need U. S. Stars

English films, he continued, need personalities known to American audiences whereas Hollywood stars enjoy coming here because, he said, they regarded British pictures as "tops" with specialized American audiences. At the same juncture, Rank admitted American players are demanding payment in dollars for their services and that this requires a special British Treasury permit. But, while the interchange is part of policy now, Rank also insisted this, in no wise, will alter the character or the calibre of British films which, he pledges, will maintain the British standard.

"Great Expectations" did well in New York, but Rank does not expect a similar success for it in smaller towns.

Ranging over a wide assortment of subjects, Rank then touched upon television and was inclined to concede America is outstripping Britain on color video. But he claimed his organization soon will equal America in this respect. Where black-and-white television was concerned, he said he saw nothing in the States which Britain does not now have. He saw two "first-class" television stations and three television studios on his American tour and observed he realized America is determined to push television by a high quality of programs. His own resources, however, are pressing enthusiastically on technical betterment and program quality, according to Rank.

It appears Rank's discussed trip to Australia and South Africa in the spring is undecided now. In view of Britain's present position, he feels this is not the time to leave "with the coal shortage and possibly another icy winter interrupting production."

'IA' to Claim

(*Continued from page* 1)

projectionists; No. 702, laboratory technicians.

The remaining 100 would fall under No. H-63's jurisdiction. Under the present grievance and labor-management clause in H-63's contract with WB, all questions pertaining to "new jobs" are to be submitted to a labor-management session. The union is expected to take the position that the newly-acquired employes are "new" and must join H-63, under the union shop provision.

The present WB contract with H-63 covers more than 700 employes.

GRAND CENTRAL AREA
Opposite Chrysler Building
a Priceless Location
Two 4-story buildings
137-139 East 43rd St.
For Sale or Lease
L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners
565 Fifth Ave., N. Y. 17

Get back to HAMMER & TONGS SHOWMANSHIP!

Keep on hammering away at that Box Office, brother . . . if you want to keep those patrons coming back! . . . Don't be satisfied with a wishy-washy, half-hearted selling-job . . . when you KNOW that it takes the *Hammer-and-Tongs* type of SHOWMANSHIP to do the Job! . . . *Enlarge* those newspaper ads . . . and give them more *Sock!* . . . Get some extra time on *Radio!* . . . Paper those Highways and Byways . . . with eye-catching *Lithographs* . . . that bring people to your theatre! . . . Tell your story from your screen . . . in *more* ways than one . . . and find a few more spots in your Lobby and Front . . . for Eye-Catching ACCESSORIES! . . . This is *no* time for dilly-dallying! . . . Get Back to *Hammer-and-Tongs* SHOWMANSHIP . . . the kind that forges *Bigger Receipts* . . . at your BOX OFFICE!

The Prize Baby

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

REMOV

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MO TURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK 18,
N. Y. (2 COPIES)

VO 62. NO. 20 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, JULY 29, 1947 TEN CENTS

Taft Act Slows Labor Talks For 4,000 Here

Both 'IA,' SOPEG Seek Increases of 14% to 34%

With the arrival of the Taft-Hartley Act on the legislative books, conferences between management and labor in the industry here have reached a tug-of-war stage, affecting more than 4,000 employes.

The new act's provisions are considered to be the major factor in snarling negotiations between both the IATSE, AFL, and Local No. 109 of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, of the CIO, on one hand, and major film companies here on the other.

The CIO's attitude toward the new law was indicated when the United Office and Professional Workers of America, parent of No. 109, recently instructed its locals not to appeal to the National Labor Relations Board in the future. The "IA" attitude, insofar as one of its locals here is concerned, holds that "the open shop has not been forced upon us by this act," and that "we can best serve our union and the labor movement by working for its repeal through con-

(*Continued on page* 8)

'IA' Executive Board Will Meet Aug. 18

IATSE's general executive board will hold its regular mid-summer meeting at the Copley-Plaza Hotel, Boston, starting Aug. 18 and continuing for one week. It is expected to consider the effect of the Taft-Hartley law on 'IA' contracts, the question of interchange of British and American technicians and the Hollywood jurisdictional squabble.

Richard F. Walsh, international president, arrives here today on the *SS Mauretania* from London, and is expected to give a detailed report to

(*Continued on page* 8)

'Separate Category' Plan Being Studied

Hollywood, July 28.—Independent producer I. E. Chadwick's proposal for "separate category" allowances under which producers budgeting films under $100,000 would receive wage concessions from unions and guilds to

(*Continued on page* 8)

Studio Labor Pacts' Renewal Forecast

Studio labor contracts which expire on Dec. 31 will "very likely" be renewed in their present form, the Taft-Hartley labor law notwithstanding, a company labor spokesman indicated here yesterday.

This opinion follows conferences held here last week between company presidents and studio aides. While a majority of basic studio labor contracts expire on Dec. 31, major studios still have contracts with IATSE and the musicians' union that will not expire for some time later. It has not been indicated, meanwhile, the extent to which the Taft-Hartley law will figure in the signing of contracts with 12 Coast unions with which studios have no agreements at present.

Rank Stand Against Dalton Lauded Here

News of J. Arthur Rank's blast at Hugh Dalton's proposal of a British *ad valorem* tax on U. S. films in England was greeted here with wide commendation yesterday by foreign distribution executives.

The overseas sales chiefs stood squarely behind Rank's publicly-stated opposition to the tax plan on the ground that it would seriously hamper British-American industry relations. They declined, however, to discuss possible counter proposals.

The feeling generally expressed was

(*Continued on page* 7)

Allied Board Will Tackle 6 Industry Problems Today

Washington, July 28. — Allied States Association's stand on half a dozen problems affecting the industry will be determined when the executive committee sits down to a two-day meeting here tomorrow.

High on the agenda will be discussion of plans leading to Allied's probable appearance before the House Ways and Means. Committe during the next session of Congress, asking for a repeal of the Federal admissions tax. At that time, according to Abram F. Myers, chairman of the Allied board, there should be a "reasonable prospect" of securing relief by legislation.

Allied has already stated its intention of starting its tax repeal campaign on a "local level" this summer. Exhibitors will "talk quietly," Myers said, with Congressmen and Senators who are spending their vacations in home towns.

Allied also intends to "step up" its campaign to procure additional sources of product, and plans for further action will be one of the key points on the executive committee's calendar.

As reported previously by Motion Picture Daily, two important points

(*Continued on page* 8)

Place Elected Head Of General Precision

Herman G. Place has been elected president of General Precision Equipment Corp., succeeding Earle G. Hines, who will become chairman of the board of directors on Aug. 1. Place has been a member of the board since the company's reorganization in

(*Continued on page* 8)

Lack of Names, Accent Bar to Buy-British Move

While J. Arthur Rank has returned to England with asurances that the affiliated circuits here will match their playing time with the quality of British-made products, considerable public and exhibitor resistance to the "Buy British" movement continues plainly in evidence, theatre sources report.

Exhibitor regional leaders in town recently, some for the ATA-MPTOA merger meeting, pointed to the present wide gap separating "quality" and dollars-and-cents values.

Both Robert J. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, and William J. Heineman, sales chief for Rank product at Universal-International, expressed the view that first-run engagements of top product, virtually guaranteed, will be followed by subsequent-run bookings in the national course of events.

In their definition of "box-office values," however, theatremen emphasize the importance of "names," pointing out that even "Great Expectations," a success in the larger cities is likely to falter in the smaller towns, particularly in the South and Southwest for want of marquee

(*Continued on page* 7)

Schenck Aids In Choice of UA President

Former UA Head Given Pickford Attorney Power

Hollywood, July 28.—Joseph M. Schenck today was given a voting trusteeship in United Artists to act as arbitrator without compensation in the selection of a new president for the company. This development came during a meeting of Gradwell L. Sears, UA distribution chief, with UA producers at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel.

Mary Pickford, a UA partner, gave Schenck, who is executive producer at 20th Century-Fox and a former president of UA, the power of attorney to represent her fully. Shortly afterward, Arthur Kelly, Charles Chaplin's representative on the UA board, arrived with a verbal commitment from Chaplin to abide by Schenck's decisions.

Schenck, it was stated, is acting

(*Continued on page* 8)

NCA Slates Aug. 5 Parley on Practices

Minneapolis, July 28.—North Central Allied will withhold further action on plans to use full-page advertisements in Washington daily newspapers, urging President Truman to investigate the film business, pending the outcome of the Minneapolis luncheon-meeting being arranged by

(*Continued on page* 8)

Meyer Resigns from FWC District Post

Los Angeles, July 28. — Stanley Meyer, district manager for first-run Fox West Coast theatres in Los Angeles, has resigned, effective immediately.

Meyer was associated with the Skouras brothers for 17 years, having started in the theatre managing department in Milwaukee in 1930. In 1937, he was transferred to Fox West Coast Theatres, where he served for the past 10 years. Meyer stated that his future plans are indefinite.

In This Issue

"Down to Earth" is reviewed on page 8. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Personal Mention

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE president, and RENE CLAIR, French director, and MRS. CLAIR are among passengers who will arrive here today on the *SS Mauretania.*

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is vacationing at the home of his daughter, MRS. SHELDON KAPLAN, at Lake Minnetonka, Minn. Her husband is a film attorney.

•

JOSEPH H. MOSKOWITZ, 20th Century-Fox vice-president and studio representative at the home office, is expected back in town from the Coast on Thursday.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, left here yesterday for a tour of the South and Southwest.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian division sales manager, will leave New York today for Toronto.

•

TED R. GAMBLE, American Theatres Association board chairman, is expected back in town today from Indianapolis.

•

ALAN F. CUMMINGS, head of M-G-M exchange operations, returned to the home office yesterday from Indianapolis.

•

PAUL N. LAZARUS, JR., United Artists advertising-publicity director, has delayed his return here from the Coast for another week.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, Kay Film Exchanges executives, are due here today from Atlanta.

•

BUDD ROGERS returned here yesterday from a vacation in the Adirondacks.

•

FRED LEROY, sales assistant at the Paramount home office, is on vacation.

Rankin Again Hits 'Duel in the Sun'

WASHINGTON, July 28.—The Congressional rush to adjourn did not keep Rep. John Rankin from inserting in the record another bitter attack on "Duel in the Sun."

The Mississippi Democrat pointed out that he had introduced a resolution to "protect the children of Washington, D. C., from the showing of the picture," and that he now understood it was being shown in the city "despite the protests of the decent elements of the Nation's Capital."

Bartholomew to Ireland

ALBANY, N. Y., July 28.—Freddie Bartholomew will appear in motion pictures to be made in Dublin, where Gabriel Pascal is building a studio to film "Candida," play by George Bernard Shaw, Bartholomew has disclosed.

U. S. To Press Case Against ASCAP

Washington, July 28.—Robert Nitschke, chief of the cartel section of the Department of Justice, declared today that at this time the Government still intends to prosecute its case against ASCAP.

"They have not satisfied the requests for relief in the Government's complaint," he said.

Colvin to Capital For TEDPA Meet

CHICAGO, July 28.—Ray G. Colvin, president of the Theatre Equipment Dealers' Protective Association, after meeting with the board of directors of the Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers' Association, will leave on Aug. 5 for Washington to make final arrangements for the convention of his association which will be held there at the Shoreham Hotel on Sept. 25-29. The TEDPA convention and the TESMA trade show are to be held at the same place and dates and Colvin will meet Roy Boomer, secretary of the TESMA in Washington to arrange convention and trade show matters.

Colvin announces that TEDPA had accepted the applications of five new members: Elmer Brient and Sons, Washington; General Theatre Equipment Co., Toledo, J. F. Dusman, Baltimore; Dixie Theatre Service, Albany, Ga.; Perkins Electric Co., Ltd., Montreal.

Smith, Mundt Map Overseas Unit Probe

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Plans for a joint Congressional investigation of the State Department's overseas information program, including the motion picture section, were mapped out today by Sen. Smith and Rep. Mundt, who will head the inquiry. The investigation was approved by both houses.

The committee is directed to report by next Feb. 1, and presumably its recommendations will determine the fate of the program and of the House-approved Mundt Bill, authorizing the program.

Golding Quits U. K. Post with Goldwyn

LONDON, July 28.—David Golding has resigned his position as Goldwyn publicity representative. It is understood that he will join Alexander Korda to handle American publicity of London Film Productions similar to the Rank Organization setup in New York.

Forming ANFC Unit

An executive committee is being formed for the American National Film Committee of the United Nations, it is reported by Carl E. Milliken, ANFC chairman, who said the committee will consist solely of industry representatives.

D. C. Building Code Parley in a Week

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Relaxation of the District of Columbia's rigid building and fire code will be discussed at a meeting of District officials and members of the city's Citizens' Committee within a week or 10 days, Robert H. Davis, director of inspection for the District, said today.

Tentative agreement has already been reached on the relaxation of three provisions in the new code regarding new theatres, according to A. Julian Brylawski, vice-president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and chairman of the Citizens' sub-committee for theatres.

The provisions are: Standees may be permitted up to 50 per cent of a theatre's capacity if aisles and exits are kept clear; exit lights will not be brighter than they are under the present code and exit doors will be no wider; the fire alarm provision, to which theatre owners objected, will be taken out in the revised code.

Brylawski added, however, that District theatre owners are not concerned so much with the regulations for new projects as with those for existing theatres. The bulk of the Citizens' Committee's suggestions are for the code covering existing theatres.

Davis said today that consideration of the Committee recommendations for existing theatres will not come up for several weeks at least. "There are millions of dollars tied up in old theatres," Brylawski said, "and if the provisions of the new building code are put through, 20 theatres would have to close. There are drastic regulations put in which we can't meet."

It is expected that the District committee next week will incorporate in the new code other minor recommendations for new theatres made by the Citizens' committee.

The new building code, written in 1942, was to have gone into effect July 1 of this year. The effective date was extended until April, 1948, however, and the 26-man Committee was set up to work with the District committee in relaxing some of the more drastic provisions of the new code.

Bell & Howell Buys Microfilm Recording

CHICAGO, July 28.—J. H. McNabb, president of Bell and Howell Co., announces the purchase of the Microfilm Recording Co.

Bell and Howell's microfilm sales, service, and repair departments, and processing laboratories will be moved Aug. 1 to quarters now occupied by Microfilm.

Tax-Free Admission Bill at White House

Washington, July 28.—The conference report on the bill ending tax-free admissions, passed by the Senate, is now on the President's White House desk, where approval by Truman is expected.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

WYOMING
Starring
William ELLIOTT
Vera RALSTON
John CARROLL
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
BRANDT'S COOL GLOBE 46th St. B'way

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON
RKO RADIO

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
VAN JOHNSON
JUNE ALLYSON
in M-G-M's
'HIGH BARBAREE'
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
Adrian ROLLINI Trio
Extra!
TIM HERBERT
plus OTHERS

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
36TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE" in TECHNICOLOR
Starring BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM" ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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"LOVE" IS SWEEPING THE COUNTRY

Day After Day, Date After Date, How They're Rolling In For

THE ENTERPRISE STUDIOS PRESENT

BARBARA STANWYCK and **DAVID NIVEN**

in

DAVID LEWIS' PRODUCTION

of

ERICH MARIA REMARQUE'S

"THE Other LOVE"

with

RICHARD CONTE

GILBERT ROLAND • JOAN LORRING • LENORE AUBERT • MARIA PALMER • NATALIE SCHAFER

Screenplay by Ladislas Fodor and Harry Brown

Adapted from the short story "BEYOND" by Erich Maria Remarque

DIRECTED BY ANDRE de TOTH

Here's the LOEWdown . . .

JULY 31

NORFOLK
PITTSBURGH
PROVIDENCE
ROCHESTER
DAYTON
TOLEDO
INDIANAPOLIS
KANSAS CITY
EVANSVILLE
MEMPHIS
BUFFALO
TORONTO

AUG. 7

CANTON
LOUISVILLE
LONDON, ONT.

AUG. 14

ST. LOUIS
BALTIMORE
RICHMOND
SYRACUSE
AKRON
NASHVILLE
HOUSTON
BOSTON
BRIDGEPORT
NEW HAVEN
HARTFORD
ATLANTA

AUG. 21

CLEVELAND
NEW ORLEANS
COLUMBUS

SEPT. 4

HARRISBURG
READING
WILMINGTON

. . . and many, many more to come!

You can't help loving "LOVE". . . . from UA!

Following the

Another Pictur

Rita

HAYWORTH

i

Down to

wit

MARC PLATT · **ROLAND CULVER**

ADELE JERGENS · GEORG

Original screenplay by Edwin Blu

Directed by **ALEXANDER HAL**

A COLUMBI

in TECHNICOLOR!

“Jolson” Plan,

e of Great Size!

Larry

PARKS

Earth

ES **GLEASON** · EDWARD EVERETT **HORTON**

ACREADY · WILLIAM **FRAWLEY**

Hartman · Songs by Allan Roberts and Doris Fisher

DON HARTMAN PRODUCTION

CTURE

Eric Johnston Again Warns of Russians

CHICAGO, July 28.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston declared again today that all Western Europe lives in fear of two things: one, that Russia will move in, the other that the United States will pull out.

Speaking here at a luncheon of the National Association of Credit Jewelers, Johnston said that Russia now clearly intends to dominate her vassal states not only politically but economically as well.

Johnston left immediately after the luncheon for New York, where he is scheduled to attend an MPA board meeting on Wednesday. He will return to Washington at the end of the week, and will then leave for Spokane. Present plans call for his spending August on the West Coast.

Extend U-I Playing Time

MINNEAPOLIS, July 28.—Universal-International's new season's product will be played by Minnesota Amusement Co. on a basis "greatly extended" over those of recent seasons under terms of new contracts concluded between Charles Feldman, U-I Western division sales manager; Roy Miller, Minneapolis branch manager, and John Branton, the circuit's buyer. "The Egg and I" will be first of the U-I pictures to get extended playing time.

Natco Promotes Yankie

CHICAGO, July 28. — Russell H. Yankie, Natco, Inc., Southern district sales manager, has been promoted to the newly created position of Natco educational director for its motion picture projection equipment.

Grandview's Theatre Honors Mrs. Truman

Kansas City, Mo., July 28.—The Grand Theatre, at Grandview, Mo., operated by H. B. Horton, was closed yesterday and today in homage to Mrs. Martha Truman who died Sunday. Most other business establishments in that small town were also closed today in respect for President Truman's mother.

Exhibitors Uniting Against 10% Tax

ST. PAUL, July 28.—A united exhibitor assault is being formulated here against a proposed ordinance which would allow the city to assess one cent on each 10 cents admission to theatres and other establishments where entertainment is furnished.

George Granstrom, St. Paul independent exhibitor, has been named to head a committee to raise funds and outline a program of action "for a finish fight" against the threatened tax. Joseph Finley, general counsel for Minnesota Amusement Co., and Stanley Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, will assist Granstrom's committee in a legal and advisory capacity. It is believed that nearby Minneapolis will adopt the tax if it passes in St. Paul.

Ehrlich Leaves 20th Post

Joe Ehrlich, syndicate and wire service press contact at 20th Century-Fox's home office for the past four years, has resigned. He will take a brief vacation at his Boston home before resuming in the industry.

'Bank Night' Halted; Await Legal Okay

MINNEAPOLIS, July 28. — Minnesota Amusement Co. has voluntarily suspended "Bank Night" and other cash giveaway programs in all of its theatres in this state pending clarification of the legality of cash giveaways at theatres by the state's Attorney-General's office. The action, circuit executives have conceded, "will hurt some houses in a large measure."

Some other theatre owners, meanwhile, are continuing the money games where they are not halted by definite orders of the sheriff's office, as the Attorney-General continues to study their legality.

Hold Luncheon for Seidelman Thursday

Sam Seidelman, Eagle-Lion foreign sales head, will discuss plans for worldwide distribution with emphasis on the Latin American market at a luncheon in his honor at Toots Shor's here on Thursday.

Seidelman, accompanied by Mike Hoffay and other Eagle-Lion officers, will also discuss his trip through Latin and South American countries. Others expected to attend are executives of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, and Pathe Industries.

George S. Appelgate, 55

Funeral services will be held today at the Fairchild Chapel, Garden City, L. I., for George S. Appelgate, 55, chief of engineering of the Westrex Corp., who died suddenly last Friday night. He lived in Garden City, L. I. Interment will be tomorrow morning in Port Washington. Surviving, besides his widow, Anna, are two sisters.

Networks Join in FM Music Program

WASHINGTON, July 28. — The four national radio networks will seek to arrange duplication of network AM musical programs on FM radio stations, network representatives have reported to the Employee-Employer Relations Committee of the National Association of Broadcasters. The latter group, holding sessions on labor legislation, endorsed the report of the networks by resolution and [illegible]ed them to proceed with the [illegible]an quickly.

Coast 'Stallion' Run

West Coast premiere of Eagle-Lion's "Red Stallion" will be held at the Carthay Circle Theatre in Los Angeles, of the Fox-West Coast Circuit, on Tuesday, Aug. 12, as an old-fashioned Wild West jamboree and carnival, reports A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, and Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity, following their return to New York from conferences with Charles Skouras, head of National Theatres and Fox-West Coast, in Los Angeles.

Johnson in Panama Post

Douglas J. G. Johnson has been appointed manager of the Panama office of Western Electric, succeeding Perry Shean, who will return to the New York office of the Westrex Corp. for reassignment. Johson has been with Westrex since 1941.

DiPietro Resigns

Alfred DiPietro, vice-president in charge of operations for Films, Inc., has resigned, effective Aug. 15. DiPietro has been connected with Films, Inc., for more than 11 years. He will announce a new connection on Aug. 2.

"Deser
tops al

Color by TECHNICOLOR

Directed by LEWIS ALLEN • Screenplay by Robert Rossen • A Paramount Picture

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ATLANTA

[illegible] weather generally had an adverse effect on some theatre business. "Welcome Stranger" in its second week was holding strong. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 30:

BORN TO SPEED (PRC) and HOPPY'S HOLIDAY (UA)—CAPITAL (2,446) (37c). Gross: $5,100. (Average: $5,200)
CHEYENNE (WB)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $19,000)
COPACABANA (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,000)
WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,700)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,900)

BALTIMORE

Business is a bit better where new attractions are concerned. Weather for the openings was conducive to outdoor amusements rather than films. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 31:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—VALENCIA (1,466) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 8th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-45c-54c-56c: $5,000)
FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)
NEW ORLEANS (UA)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-55c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,500)
SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500)
THE OVERLANDERS (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $2,750. (Average: $3,000)

TORONTO

With a cool wave breaking the midsummer heat, Toronto theatres took a brace against seasonal slump and four first-run houses held over their programs, three of which had British features. Outdoor attractions are finding attendance lower than that recorded last summer. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 1:

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Alliance) and A CHUMP AT OXFORD (Alliance)—CAPITAL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $5,000)
CAPTAIN CAUTION (Alliance) and A CHUMP AT OXFORD (Alliance)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days Gross: $5,800. (Average: $6,800)
CHEYENNE (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $14,300)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (Br.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $7,800).
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (Br.)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,500)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $13,800)
RAMROD (UA) and MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $11,400)
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN (Br.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,800)

Buy-British Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

names. Also cited as detrimental to the financial fate of imported product —in smaller places—is the British accent. However, progress so far has been more than gratifying, Heineman concluded, pointing to the success of "Odd Man Out," starring James Mason.

Heineman acknowledges the current sales hurdles, but believes these are surmountable and will be passed in time through an "educational process," acquainting the public with the entertainment values which the better British pictures can provide and with British talent. A step forward in introducing the latter to theatre-goers of this country was Rank's contracts with various Hollywood stars to appear with British players in forthcoming British product, Heineman said.

He further acknowledged the "quality box-office" difference, particularly as it is evidenced, he said, in selling "Expectations." Hollywood star names in this film would have meant a $5,000,000 distributor gross, he claimed, indicating sales to date points to a figure well under that amount.

In his first press interview since his return to London, J. Arthur Rank last Friday declared he was aware smaller towns in America continued to be allergic to British accents. "We must face facts", he stated. "The great mass of American cinemagoers so far have been accustomed to their own pictures. It is still not easy to win them over to ours. This is bound to take time."

He likewise stated he did not expect "Great Expectations" to experience the same success it enjoyed at the Music Hall when it plays in smaller situations here.

Rank is Acquiring 7 Foreign Studios

J. Arthur Rank is taking over studios in seven foreign countries in an effort to increase Britain's motion picture revenue, according to press dispatches reaching here from London yesterday. It was said that Rank was offering this as one more reason for stopping the British government tax on American films, proposed as a dollar-saving measure.

Rank is completing negotiations for studios in Italy, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Canada and France, where British films with British stars will be made.

Stars, technicians and equipment will be flown in as needed in private planes, the dispatch said. The key continental studio, it was said, would be in Austria.

'Duel' Grosses $113,000

David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" grossed $113,000 in the first three days of its multiple-run engagement in Detroit, according to reports received by the Selznick Releasing Organization here. The film registered $38,000 at the downtown Fox Theatre and $75,000 in 17 suburban houses for the three days beginning last Friday.

Rank's Dalton Blast

(*Continued from page* 1)

that Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, is "carrying the ball," as one spokesman put it, and it was said that a program of action against the Dalton recommendation will be determined at an MPA meeting here tomorrow, at which Johnston will reveal his plans.

week-day opening records at Salt Lake City World Premiere and second day tops opening days of Paramount's biggest...as "Fury's" tough-fisted drama blasts toward all-time record week!

LIZABETH SCOTT · JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
in HAL WALLIS' Production
"Desert Fury"
with
MARY ASTOR · WENDELL COREY

Allied Board Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

of consideration will be: Allied's intention to file a brief with the Supreme Court as *amicus curiae* in the industry anti-trust suit; the feasibility of backing North Central Allied president Benny Berger's appeal in his suit to determine the legality of ASCAP's position on royalty payments for public performances.

The committee will consider also Allied president Jack Kirsch's plan, presented in Atlantic City, for handling exhibitor complaints as well as appeals from territories wishing aid in setting up Allied units. Allied expects to work up an intensive membership campaign during the coming year, Myers said.

Members of the executive committee who will attend are: Jack Kirsch, Sidney E. Samuelson, Nathan Yamins, H. A. Cole, M. A. Rosenberg, Martin G. Smith and Myers.

Schenck Aids

(*Continued from page* 1)

solely on the basis of his long interest in UA affairs and as an outstanding member of the film industry at large. The decision to place the matter of the presidency in Schenck's hands was warmly discussed by producers present, with Sears reporting later that "sentiment was generally favorable."

In reporting on his visit to London in behalf of playing time for UA product, Sears told the producers that the situation had been left virtually unchanged, confirming a report in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Friday, since he was powerless to meet the conditions there. He said he was handicapped by the unsettled nature of the company's executive setup and management here.

He added that further efforts to improve the company's position in England will be made, although not necessarily by him. Sears declined to speculate on the possible choice Schenck will make for the UA presidency.

To Renovate Theatre

After a contemplated renovation which is expected to cost about $50,000, the Arrow Theatre, a 600-seat house located adjacent to the Stuyvesant and Jacob Riis Housing Development, here, will reopen as the 14th Street Metropolitan Theatre with an "art" and foreign film policy, according to Berk and Krumgold, theatre realty agents, who have announced a 21-year deal with the new tenants, a corporation headed by Morris Goldman and David J. Sanders. Benjamin Knobel and Leo Silver own the house.

Pal to Make Toys

HOLLYWOOD, July 28. — Producer George Pal has opened a new phase of his commercial department, to manufacture here, under his own setup, toys depicting the characters and theme of "Tom Thumb", first in his forthcoming series of high-budget live action - animation productions for Allied Artists release.

Howard Bros. Film Set

Willie Howard and his brother, Eugene, both of the stage, will sail for London shortly where Stark, Inc., will film "The Life of Willie and Gene." Neither one will act in the picture, but Gene will serve as the director while Willie will be technical adviser.

Review

"Down to Earth"

(*Columbia*)

SINCE this is a fantasy, not even dramatic license was required to make things happen. Edwin Blum and Don Hartman, therefore, had all the free wheeling they needed in concocting this highly ingratiating and very commercial piece of make-believe.

It's about Terpsichore who temporarily reduces the Nine Muses to eight while she arranges passage to Times Square to straighten out a musical comedy producer named Larry Parks on the family life of Ancient Greece's goddesses and their manner of living on the perpetually sunny slopes of Mount Parnassus. Here is where Mr. Jordan comes in.

Terpsichore, otherwise known as Rita Hayworth, succeeds in her mission, but not without complications. Firstly, more woman-like than goddess-like, she makes Parks fall for her as part of the maneuvre which goes off schedule when she falls in love with him. What was originated as a lowdown stage musical in the spirit of "jive-and-hip" movements, which submit to practically no control, is converted into the ponderous, if impressive, cadences of the traditional Greek tragedy. It puts the audience in the theatre on the screen practically to sleep and stands a good chance of doing ditto to the flesh-and-blood audiences in front of the screen.

Miss Hayworth, then, has her victory and Parks a flop with his life as forfeiture because of a deal with a gangster under terms of which Parks agrees to suicide in the event the show fails. Mr. Jordan explains to Miss Hayworth and urges her to do the part as Parks wrote it. She does and the play is a smash. However, this terminates her duties on earth. Back to Parnassus she travels with Mr. Jordan, the all-seeing and all-guiding one, who indicates happiness on a cloud for the boy and girl in that near-at-hand celestial future when Parks is no longer earthbound.

That's the story. It is entertainingly developed as Hartman produced and Alexander Hall directed. Miss Hayworth, always something to look at, does a laudatory job of singing and dancing with able support, chiefly from Parks and Marc Platt. Comedy is largely in the competent lap of James Gleason who, it may be remembered, had contact with Mr. Jordan in another day and in another film. Production values are superior in every regard in this Technicolor film.

The approach to "Down to Earth" inevitably is dictated by exhibitor experience with "Here Comes Mr. Jordan." This time, Mr. J. is Roland Culver who is excellent, Additionally, the current excursion from up above down here to earth has Miss Hayworth, whose first attraction this is since "Gilda," and Parks, whose first this is since "The Jolson Story."

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

'Separate Category'

(*Continued from page* 1)

hold costs within grossing potentialities will be studied by several subcomitees representing the Screen Actors' Guild and other crafts, as a result of a general meeting between Independent Motion Picture Producers Association and labor representatives here. IMPPA producers will furnish production costs records covering recent years to the sub-committees. A joint IMPPA-labor statement expresses hope that definite decisions will be reached during the week.

SAG has issued a call for a special membership meeting on Aug. 7 in the Pan-Pacific Auditorium, for the presentation of terms of a one-year contract with the AMPP and SIMPP, recently negotiated. SAG's board recommends ratification of the agreement by a "large majority" within a few days after Aug. 7 "because of certain time limitations laid down in the new Taft-Hartley law."

NCA Aug. 5 Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ben Berger, NCA president, for Aug. 5. Andrew Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox's general sales manager, will outline at the meeting the company's new policy affecting small town theatres and distressed houses in larger communities. The Nicollet Hotel will be the site of the meeting.

Berger has invited independent exhibitors, distributors "and anyone else" interested in small theatre owners' problems to attend the luncheon, which will be held in conjunction with an NCA board meeting.

'IA' Board Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

the board of his conferences in London with Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, on the interchange question.

Basic agreement was reached by Walsh and O'Brien on the interchange question. Walsh, while in England, also conferred with George Elvin, secretary of the Association of Cine-Technicians, whose jurisdictional clashes with NATKE have been similar to those which the IATSE has occasionally had with other unions in Hollywood.

Place Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

1936, while Hines has been president, also since 1936.

Place, while serving as vice-president of the Chase National Bank in the early 1930's, directed much of the activity relating to the reorganization of the company. Most of his activities in Chase, Seaboard National Bank and Equitable Trust have been concerned with problems related to the film industry.

Subsidiaries of General Precision include: International Projector Corp., National-Simplex-Bludworth, Strong Electric Corp., J. E. McAuley Manufacturing Co., Hertner Electric Co., Ampro Corp., Cine Simplex Corp., Theatre Equipment Contracts Corp., Motion Picture Engineering Corp., Bizzelle Cinema Supply Corp., Askania Regulator Co., and Librascope, Inc.

Labor Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

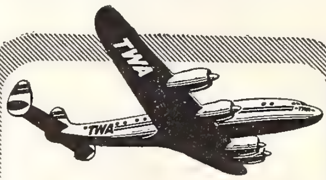
tacting lawmakers and leaving the legality in the hands of the lawyers." The "IA" local added crisply, "As one labor service put it, the bill will probably be "hell for labor, purgatory for business, and a bonanza for the lawyers."

SOPEG has the largest group of employes affected, 2,500 in home office negotiations just begun with the majors for a 30 per cent incre[illegible]r $10 weekly, whichever is high[illegible] In those negotiations, SOPEG has made public a survey of earnings of its members in the industry, in which it contends that 46.1 per cent of 1,814 employes polled make less than $35 weekly, and 78.2 per cent earn less than $45 per week.

SOPEG has also been negotiating for 100 exchange employes of Loew, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia, seeking a similar wage boost.

The "I-A's" Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, has been engaged in negotiations with Universal for 250 employes, for whom a 14 per cent wage increase is sought. It has also been struggling with negotiations for 35 employes of the Pathe laboratories here and at Bound Brook, N. J.

Another local of the IATSE, projectionists' Local No. 306, has been seeking an agreement for 1,200 employes of the Loew, RKO, Skouras and Randforce circuit here. A 34 per cent wage increase is sought.



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Allied to Ask U.S. Curb on Ascap in Bill

Part of 2-Front Fight; Myers to Map Proposal

WASHINGTON, July 29.—The Allied States executive committee today directed its general counsel, Abram F. Myers, to draft a bill designed to curb the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, for presentation at the next session of Congress.

At the close of the first session of the committee's two-day meeting at the Statler Hotel here, Myers said that the bill, which would take the form of amending the U. S. general copyright laws, would be one part of a a two-pronged Allied drive against Ascap.

The other part would be a study of existing litigation to pick a test case to determine the legal powers of Ascap under the present laws, he said.

Myers pointed out that the decision to fight Ascap was reached "because of repeated stories in the trade press

(*Continued on page* 11)

Walsh Sees Peace Pact With Dalton

A working agreement will eventually be reached with Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton on his proposal for an *ad valorem* British tax on U. S. films, Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, declared here yesterday.

"Tom O'Brien (general secretary of the British National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes)

(*Continued on page* 12)

Defer Meet of TOA Convention Group

Meeting of the committee in charge of arrangements for the organizational convention of the proposed Theatre Owners of America, originally scheduled for tomorrow here, has been put off to Aug. 7. A. Julian Brylawski, vice-president of the MPTOA, chairman of the group, was forced to defer the session due to the pressure of other work at his headquarters in Washington.

'Bachelor,' 'Wonder' And 'Crossfire' Take Top NY Money

Business for the current week at New York's first-runs is anything but uniform, grosses ranging from sub-par to very big, the latter particularly describing the performances of three newcomers, "Crossfire," "Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" and "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

The mid-summer weekend, warm and bright, resulted in millions scurrying to the beaches and a considerable depression in revenue at many situations. But the trio of new entries managed to overcome the heat and its usual detrimental effects.

"Crossfire" is slated for a gigantic first week's gross of $59,000 at the Rivoli, biggest business the house has had in several months. Opening day of "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her

(*Continued on page* 11)

Gulf ATO Lauds 20th-Fox Plan

NEW ORLEANS, July 29.—Members of the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States today went on record expressing appreciation for the stand taken by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, in the recent policy formulated to assist small independent exhibitors. This action was taken at a meeting of the Gulf States ATO board of governors here, with President Prewitt presiding.

Also stressed by the group was the necessity of unifying independent exhibitors' efforts in this territory. A committee was set up to recommend by-laws at the next meeting, and the board also approved the appointment of Maurice J. Artigues as general manager.

1st of MPA Series Has Been Finished

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Release of the first in the Motion Picture Association-sponsored public affairs shorts is expected in mid-September, according to Edward Cheyfitz, supervising the program for the MPA.

The series has been tentatively titled "America Unlimited," Cheyfitz said, and full production details for the rest of the series are expected to be ready early next week.

MPA president Eric Johnston is scheduled to see this week a final print

(*Continued on page* 12)

Warner Pathe News Debut on Aug. 13

Pre-release showing of the first issue of Warner Pathe News, following purchase of the *Pathe* newsreel organization by Warner Brothers, will take place in New York theatres on Aug. 13.

First general release of the reel is scheduled for Aug. 17.

Majors' Profits Up 100% in '46: SOPEG

Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Columbia "increased net profits after taxes, from 1945 to 1946, by over 100 per cent," the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, declares in a brief submitted to the companies in connection with its request for a 30 per cent wage increase for 2,500 home office employes here.

"The 1945 profits, in turn, were from two to 10 times greater than their pre-war (1938) earnings," the brief says, and asserts that "we have every reason to believe that these all-time high profits will continue in 1947."

The brief describes the results of a survey taken among 1,814 employes. Of the 1,814, some 1,296 were unable to save any money, 46.1 per cent are paid less than $35 per week, and 78.2 per cent are paid less than $45 per week, according to the brief.

Of 836 employes earning from $23

(*Continued on page* 12)

Chaplin Legal Voice Stays Schenck's Role

HOLLYWOOD, July 29.—After day-long conferences here today, an agreement under which Joseph Schenck would select the next president of United Artists and in other ways effect revisions in company management, hinged on whether Charles Chaplin, who yesterday authorized Schenck to act for him, will supply the 20th Century-Fox executive with the power of attorney equivalent to that given him by Mary Pickford yesterday.

Schenck, who earlier had accepted the proposal that he act as voting trustee without compensation, was visited today by Chaplin's vice-president on the U.A. board, Arthur Kelly, who assured Schenck that Chaplin wanted him to go through with the arrangement set up yesterday.

Warner Profit Up $4,385,000 Over '46 Level

9 Month Net $19,134,000; 4 Millions for Pathe

Warner Bros. Pictures, Inc., and subsidiaries yesterday reported a net profit of $19,134,000 for the nine months ending May 31, 1947, after providing $11,900,000 for Federal income taxes. This represents an increase of $4,385,000 over the same period last year when the net was $14,749,000.

The company formally disclosed it had paid $4,000,000 in cash for Pathe News.

The current profit statement includes a refund of $418,000 in foreign excess profits taxes applicable to prior years and represents earnings of $2.60 per share on the 7,341,680 shares of common stock then outstanding. In the previous comparable period, earnings were equivalent to $1.99 per share

(*Continued on page* 12)

Warner Sales Meet To Open Tomorrow

Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Brothers, and Albert Warner, vice-president, will be the principal speakers at the opening day's session of the company's three-day sales convention which gets under way here tomorrow morning at the Waldorf-Astoria, with Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, presiding.

Jack L. Warner, vice-president and

(*Continued on page* 12)

Dembow to Represent Pickford on Film

HOLLYWOOD, July 29.—Mary Pickford, president of Triangle Productions, today named Sam Dembow, Jr., president of Producers' Service Corp., as worldwide representative on the

(*Continued on page* 11)

3 Reviews Today

"Desert Fury" and The Unfinished Dance" are reviewed on page 6; "Deep Valley" on page 12. Key city gross reports are on page 11.

Rally Opposition To St. Paul Tax

ST. PAUL, July 29.—Public support in opposition to the proposed 10 per cent city admissions tax will be enlisted through full page advertisements in Friday newspapers as well as trailers in all theatres for the duration of the campaign.

Stanley Kane, North Central Allied executive director, points out the campaign will state that more than 30 cents of the amusement dollar would go for Federal and city taxes if the proposal carries, citing taxes on golf, swimming, dancing, baseball, concerts and high school athletic games as well as theatres. The ads also warn the city council not to drive residents to Minneapolis for entertainment.

The Minnesota Amusement Co., RKO Theatres, and independents are solidly behind the drive, supported by schools, clubs and other affected organizations. It is conceded that pressure will have to be strong as the city needs additional income and the budget must be completed by August 5.

Extend Date of Pact In Exchange Talks

Contract expiration date for 100 employes here of Loew, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia exchanges has been extended until Aug. 8 by agreement between the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, and the companies. It had been scheduled to expire on Friday.

The next negotiation session will be held on Friday, and another session is scheduled for Monday.

ACT Signs Contract With Newsreels

LONDON, July 29.—An agreement has been signed between the Newsreel Association and the Association of Cine-Technicians, replacing the pact of August, 1944.

The new agreement provides minimum salaries for cameramen and sound recordists will be nine pounds, 10 shillings, plus a cost of living bonus. It affects 200 employes employed by British Movietonews, Gaumont - British, British Paramount News, Pathe Gazette and Universal News.

Coast Unions Seek Contract Extensions

HOLLYWOOD, July 29.—With the Screen Publicists Guild negotiating committee and representatives of the studio office workers scheduled to meet tomorrow with the labor committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, studio unions appeared to be seeking to hurdle the recent Taft-Hartley law through contract extensions. No changes in the terms of current contracts, which have until the end of the year to run, are being sought.

Negotiators for the plasterers, hod carriers, culinary workers and teamsters met with the AMPP committee today.

Personal Mention

MAURICE A. BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising - publicity director, and CHARLES SIMONELLI, special events director, will leave New York today for Chicago.

•

RAY MOON, 20th Century-Fox Eastern division manager; FRANK CARROLL, his assistant, and CLARENCE HILL, also of the sales department, are visiting the Schine circuit office in Gloversville, N. Y., on business. JOSEPH ROSEN, Albany resident manager, is with them.

•

LOUIS F. STEUERLE, president and general manager of the Broadway Theatre, Louisville, has retired from the motion picture business after 40 years, with his nephew, EUGENE J. STEUERLE, a Louisville attorney, succeeding him in his theatre activities.

•

MOE SILVER, zone manager for Warner Theatres in Pittsburgh, and HARRY FEINSTEIN, film buyer and booker for that zone, are in town for a few days.

•

CY DILLON, Republic branch manager in Charlotte, has succeeded R. M. SIMRIL of National Screen Service as fire marshal for the city's film exchanges.

•

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, is due back here Monday from a vacation at Vergennes, Vt.

•

ELAINE MESTANZA, vice-president of Foreign Screen Corp., was given a birthday dinner by friends last evening at her Washington Square home here.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, Kay Film Exchange executives, will return to Atlanta from New York at the weekend.

•

BILL MCCLURE, Universal-International office manager and head booker in Charlotte, is on vacation.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, are due back here today from Boston.

•

BILLY WILDER, Paramount director; NEIL S. MCCARTHY, West Coast attorney, and FREDERICK SPENCER, Motion Picture Association representative in Bombay, are among passengers who will sail for Europe today from New York on the *SS America*.

•

WILLIAM HEALY, assistant to AUSTIN C. KEOUGH, Paramount vice-president in charge of legal affairs, is on a two-week motor trip in upstate New York.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M assistant Eastern division manager, has been discharged from Albany, N. Y., hospital following an operation.

•

LOU NOVINS, assistant to Paramount president BARNEY BALABAN, will return to the home office today from Washington.

•

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, M-G-M producer, has arrived in town from the Coast and will sail for England on Friday.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M head of exhibitor relations, is here for three days from Boston.

•

W. RAY JOHNSTON, Allied Artists-Monogram board chairman, has returned to Hollywood from a European tour.

•

M. L. SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's *The Distributor* and assistant to H. M. RICHEY, is vacationing.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's short subject sales, is in New Orleans from Dallas.

•

LEO JONES, Ohio exhibitor, is a New York visitor.

Golding Joins Korda In UK as Publicist

David Golding, former managing editor of *Stars and Stripes* in North Africa, and for the past year Goldwyn publicity representative in England, has been appointed special representative in England in charge of United States publicity for Morris Helprin, vice-president of Alexander Korda's London Film Productions, Inc.

A successor to Golding has not yet been named, James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, said here yesterday.

UA Board Meet Now Set for August 5

Meeting of the United Artists board of directors has been postponed for a third time, from tomorrow to next Tuesday, August 5. At present, the agenda comprises only routine matters, including some new distribution contracts.

Johnston Report at MPA Meeting Today

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will report on his tour of Europe to the MPA board and foreign distribution managers of member companies at a meeting here today. Course of action countering Hugh Dalton's proposal of a British *ad valorem* duty on U. S. product and the industry's support of the Marshall Plan for the rehabilitation of Europe via a series of films. figure prominently on the agenda. Johnston will return to Washington immediately following the session, which is to begin at 10 A.M.

Nelson to Mexico

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will again visit Mexico to confer with President Aleman regarding the economic program of that country. Nelson at present is at French Hospital here where he is undergoing a checkup.

Newsreel Parade

THE death of the President's mother is a highlight of current newsreels. Other events covered are the return from Europe of Eric Johnston and the appointment of James Forrestal as Defense Secretary. Also covered are the Lincoln papers. Varied sports and human interest items round out the reels. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 96—British royal family on visit to fleet. Boy scouts off on jamboree. Belgium regent in Congo. Names in the news: James Forrestal and Eric Johnston. Lew Lehr featurette: A diaper derby. Icetime frolics. Ski aquabatics.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 294.—Lincoln's secret papers. President mourns death of mother. Forrestal becomes U. S. Secretary of Defense. Boy scouts off on jamboree. Eric Johnston reports on European trip. Diaper derby at Palisades Park. Gold cup races at Hollywood Park. National water ski tournament. Conga dance performed for Belgium prince.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 97—Boy scout jamboree. Nation mourns President's mother. Bicycle equipped with jet power. Forrestal becomes Secretary of Defense. French train pilots in gliders. Eric Johnston reports on Europe. Secretary of War Patterson leaves Washington. Arlington racing classics.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 99—Boy Scouts sail for Europe. Lincoln papers revealed. Eric Johnston reports on Europe. Elizabeth and Philip on tour. Deer star in zoo. Forrestal is Secretary of Defense. Water skiers in national race.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 60.—President's mother mourned. Lincoln papers revealed. Forrestal is defense chief. Scouts off on jamboree. Eric Johnston returns home. Wheat harvesting at Walla Walla, Wash. Diaper derby. Cheyenne rodeo.

Stock Transfer Bill To the White House

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Legislation to remove three inequities in taxes on transfer and issuance of stocks and bonds has been sent to the White House. It was approved by the senate last Saturday night. The bill provides these changes:

If a company recapitalizes and issues new stock the issue tax will apply only to the increased capitalization and not the entire capitalization; if a member of a partnership dies or retires, the stock transfer tax will be levied only on that portion of the stocks and bonds owned by the partnership in which that member had an interest, not on all the stocks and bonds owned by the partnership; no transfer tax will be levied on stock loans.

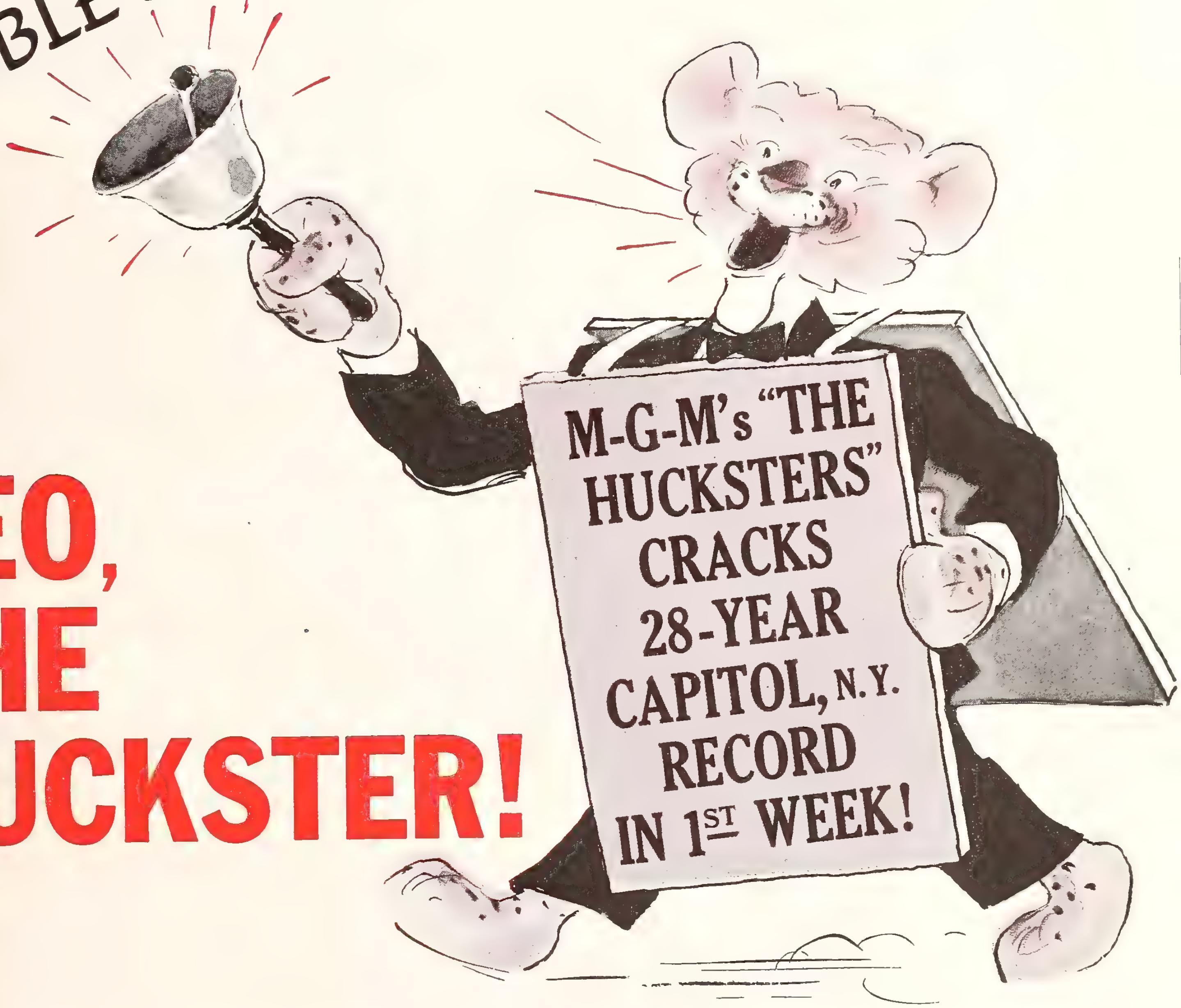
J. F. Hayden Heads Trust Division Here

WASHINGTON, July 29.—J. Francis Hayden, of New York, today was named chief of the Department of Justice anti-trust division in New York. Hayden is a special assistant to Attorney General Tom Clark.

Hayden succeeds Seymour D. Lewis, whose resignation as head of the New York office was announced last weekend.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY. Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue. Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

NEW CAPITOL RECORD—AND GABLE'S GOT IT!"


M-G-M's "THE HUCKSTERS" CRACKS 28-YEAR CAPITOL, N. Y. RECORD IN 1ST WEEK!

LEO, THE HUCKSTER!

AND NEW M-G-M RECORDS EVERYWHERE!

CHICAGO—Best all-time opening day!
LOS ANGELES—Record first week!
ALBANY—Biggest gross in 4 years!
MILWAUKEE—Best week in 5 years!
COLUMBUS—Opening challenges 5-year high!
CLEVELAND—Same story here!
NASHVILLE—New opening record!
INDIANAPOLIS—Next to 5 year top opening!
MONTICELLO, N. Y.—New house record by far!
GLENS FALLS, N. Y.—Ties all-time record!
DALLAS—Ranks with biggest biz in 10 years!
KANSAS CITY—New all-time week's record!
(This could go on forever but there's no more space.)

CLARK GABLE DEBORAH KERR
SYDNEY GREENSTREET · ADOLPHE MENJOU · AVA GARDNER
KEENAN WYNN · EDWARD ARNOLD
M-G-M's *The* HUCKSTERS

Screen Play by LUTHER DAVIS • Adaptation by EDWARD CHODOROV and GEORGE WELLS • Based on the novel by FREDERIC WAKEMAN
Directed by JACK CONWAY • Produced by ARTHUR HORNBLOW, Jr.
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

DARING PAYS OFF A

"Crossfire" cracks Rivoli (N. Y.) records as press, radio and public thunder praise!

DORE SCHARY presents

ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN

in

"Crossfire"

with GLORIA GRAHAME · PAUL KELLY · SAM LEVENE

Produced by ADRIAN SCOTT · Directed by EDWARD DMYTRYK

Screen Play by JOHN PAXTON

RKO RADIO PICTURES

"MOVIE OF THE WEEK! Deals with an important current issue. An out of the ordinary picture . . . a grade-A thriller! Reflects considerable credit on the movie industry!" —*LIFE MAGAZINE*

"A VIOLENT, SHOCKING, ENGROSSING proof-proving picture . . . you should see 'Crossfire'. But I don't believe I have to tell you this—you will!"

—*SIDNEY SKOLSKY*
(in his nationally syndicated column)

"AN IMPORTANT, STIRRING FILM is RKO's blitz against intolerance. Taut, fast-moving melodrama! ROBERT RYAN gives one of the performances of the year!" —*N. Y. DAILY MIRROR*

THE BOXOFFICE!...

"AN UNQUALIFIED A for effort is due producers DORE SCHARY, ADRIAN SCOTT and everyone else at RKO who had a hand in its making! . . . A grimly absorbing melodrama!" *—N. Y. TIMES*

"SAVAGE MELODRAMA which keys the problem of race hatred into an unusual murder story . . . as grimly realistic as a punch in the jaw! ROBERT MITCHUM is perfect . . . GLORIA GRAHAME does a brilliant turn! Proves that real entertainment quality is a product of courageous artistry!"

—N. Y. HERALD-TRIBUNE

"ABSORBING FROM ITS OPENING SCENE! Exciting melodrama . . . hard-hitting murder story that sets hate as the motive for killing! High suspense and gripping realism! Credit goes to EDWARD DMYTRYK for vigorous direction, to JOHN PAXTON for his crisp, incisive writing! ROBERT YOUNG gives the finest performance of his entire career!"

—N. Y. JOURNAL-AMERICAN

"RKO HAS BEATEN EVERYONE ELSE to the punch! A good forceful film . . . a melodrama with a message! Engrossing . . . with suspense and excitement all the way!" *—N. Y. SUN*

"IT HAS THE GUTS to be important. Has something to say and isn't afraid to say it . . . and says it with boxing gloves, not dancing pumps. When you see it, you'll be proud it could have been made in this country!"

—BILLY ROSE
(in his nationally syndicated column)

"THE BEST PICTURE OF THE WEEK is 'Crossfire'. You'll come out of the theatre thinking and talking after you've seen it!"

—JIMMY FIDLER
(ABC Network)

"I'M PROUD OF HOLLYWOOD for making pictures such as 'Crossfire'!"

—LOUELLA PARSONS
(over ABC Network)

"A DARING EXPOSE of intolerance in the United States with all the dramatic wallop of a pile driver!"

—ERSKINE JOHNSON
(MBS Network)

"SHOULD BE GREETED WITH UNRESERVED CHEERS! A subject Hollywood considers explosive . . . woven into an intriguing story and peopled with vigorous characters."

—N. Y WORLD-TELEGRAM

"A FILM TO BE PRAISED, praised again, and seen by all! Excellent! Not merely a step forward . . . it's a step into another world of thinking and doing. Deserves major credit for pioneering. Maybe all studios should make a writer their Executive Producer." *—N. Y. POST*

"ONE OF THE MOST STARTLING PICTURES ever to come out of Hollywood . . . Calls a spade a spade! Will undoubtedly arouse a good deal of discussion. The more discussion, the more people will see it, and the more people see it, the more it will stand as a triumph for the American screen!" *—N. Y. MORNING TELEGRAPH*

"SHATTERING TABOO, names names, packs thrills, wins our deep gratitude! Above all a knockout job of movie-making . . . wholly absorbing, virile, direct, dramatic, suspense-packed! Still shaken by its impact, I can't remember direction, editing and writing more eloquent and yet terse, more savage and yet tender! Go see it to see a thrilling movie!" *—PM*

"PRODUCER DORE SCHARY BLAZES A NEW TRAIL for the movies! An absorbing murder yarn . . . a straight-from-the-shoulder argument against intolerance! Never sacrifices entertainment . . . has sustained suspense and excitement!"

—BROOKLYN EAGLE

Orr Presides at UA Midwest Sales Meet

CHICAGO, July 29.—United Artists held a Midwest district sales meeting at the Blackstone Hotel, here, to discuss sales policies on forthcoming product and to emphasize the 1947 "Grad Sears Sales Drive" now under way.

M. B. Orr, Western sales manager, presided, assisted by Rud Lohrenz, retiring Midwest district manager, and Ralph Cramblet, who was promoted from Minneapolis branch manager to succeed Lohrenz.

Orr explained how UA is now better supplied with product than at any time since its inception. He said he is "confident that next year will be the biggest in our history."

Those also attending include: Morris Hellman, Oscar Bernstein, Mike Godshaw, Chic Evans, Jack Armgart, Abe Fisher and Frank Young, Chicago; Frank Eisenberg, John Fritcher, Joe Prill, Clyde Cutter, Dean Lutz, Bob Smith, and Ed Stoller, manager, from Minneapolis; Elmer Donnelly, manager Ray Thomas, Guy Hancock, Harry Hays and Milt Krueger of Indianapolis; John Bartlet, Ed Krofta, Moe Provencher, Bob Allen and Alex Pukalo of Milwaukee.

Lohrenz was the recipient of a ring from the men of his district, presented as a farewell token.

Fixed Prices Retard French, Clair Says

The French film industry is struggling with the problem of ceiling prices on theatre admissions, although no ceiling exists on production costs, René Clair, French director, said here yesterday upon his arrival aboard the *SS Mauretania.*

Clair, whose latest picture is "Silence Is Golden," which won prizes abroad, has another one to make under his contract with RKO Radio. He said he planned to confer with N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, before going to the Coast.

Jameson Opens New Shipping Service

KANSAS CITY, July 29.—Earl E. Jameson, president of the Central Shipping Bureau of Kansas City, inspecting and shipping for film distributors in this area, has set up a similar shipping service company in Denver, now having headquarters with the Monogram branch, later it will have its own building. Jameson has left Kansas for Denver to make arrangements for building construction.

Lee Is Named Mono. Manager in Panama

Louis A. Lee has been named manager of Monogram International's newly-established exchange in Panama by Bernard J. Gates, Latin American supervisor.

The exchange will also serve the Canal Zone, Ecuador, Jamaica, Curacao, Aruba and Central America.

Mayers Resigns Post

PHILADELPHIA, July 29.—Richard Mayers has resigned as advertising-publicity director of William Goldman Theatres, Inc., to become administrative executive for the newly-formed Philadelphia division of the Moldex Rubber and Plastic Corp.

Reviews

"Desert Fury"

(*Wallis-Paramount*)

Hollywood, July 29

HAL WALLIS' new presentation in Technicolor of the still untamed but dressed up West of 1947 has speed, punch, momentum and impact in abundance, plus John Hodiak, Lizabeth Scott and Burt Lancaster for the marquee, the sum of all of which appears to spell substantial grosses. But it is a Western in setting only, being an intimate study of modern racketeers, a murder story, a mother-daughter drama, something of a fashion show, and a rip-roaring melodrama, in addition, as well as gorgeous photography of the colorful terrain in the vicinity of Las Vegas, N. M. A showman can single out any of these as the basis of his selling campaign without shortchanging his customers, and it should be added in any selling copy that it is a picture for grownups in all cases.

Robert Rossen's screenplay, from the *Collier's Magazine* serial by Ramona Stewart, contains some dialogue that falls oddly from the lips of his characters, who are not ordinary characters either, but it keeps them spinning from one tight situation to another, in swanky motor cars, at a pace leaving little time for details.

The scene is Chuckawalla, N. M., a middle-sized town near Las Vegas, where Miss Scott returns from an unfinished finishing school to adopt her mother's profession, the latter (Mary Astor) being owner of the town's leading gambling house (legal in N. M.) and boss of the town's politics. Miss Scott meets Hodiak, a most sinister racketeer not wanted by the police just now and therefore taking a spot of upholstered rest on a rented ranch, accompanied by his pal and bodyguard, Wendell Corey, a newcomer to films who promises to go far. Miss Scott falls hard for Hodiak, who is suspected by State Trooper Lancaster of having killed his first wife nearly two years ago, and there is nothing her mother, who wants her to be a lady, nor Lancaster, nor Corey, nor anybody can do about it. Complications get complexer and complexer, with Miss Scott finally running away with Hodiak, at which point Corey, holding a gun on Hodiak, tells the bride-to-be more about their past crimes than she can stomach, whereupon Hodiak kills Corey and sets out in a high-powered car to run down and kill his beloved, who has set out in another, seeking escape, moments before. The chase which follows—a night sequence shot over Western highways—is among the most thrilling ever filmed, and the ending is what it should be. Direction, by Mr. Lewis Allen, concentrates on intensity, generating a whale of a lot of it before his picture ends.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Unfinished Dance"

(*M-G-M*)

THE back-stage life of ballet troupes has rarely been pictured. It is a world in itself, and perhaps producers can be forgiven if they have avoided portraying it in the past. But M-G-M has toe-danced into this hidden world with "The Unfinished Dance," sent its child star, Margaret O'Brien, whirling gracefully on gorgeous Technicolor sets, and created an appealing story, blended well with fine music. The picture also introduces Danny Thomas, known to the entertainment world as a comic, in a skilled performance hovering between tears and laughter.

Little Margaret is a ballet-struck girl, attending ballet school and idolizing the ballerina, Cyd Charisse. While Margaret's aunt, Ruth Brady, is away, Thomas, a gentle proprietor of a clock store, has the girl in his care. But a new ballerina, Karin Booth, arrives in a fanfare of publicity, and Margaret fears her idol will be eclipsed. During a public performance by Miss Booth, Margaret, intending merely to dim the stage lights, pulls a trapdoor switch instead, thus causing Miss Booth to fall with resulting severe injury. Miss Charisse then sweeps on to stardom, while Margaret broods about the injured dancer. Her secret is known only by another little girl, played excellently by Mary Eleanor Donahue, and by Thomas.

Margaret bears her secret guilt almost too long, it appears, but finally Miss Booth, who has now embarked on a teaching career, forgives the little girl; Miss Charisse, who had intended to leave ballet to be married, returns to her ballet performances, and the story ends happily. Removed as the ballet is from the average person, Miss O'Brien's drawing power, the beauty of the two ballerinas, the music and the sets should nevertheless make this effective box-office fare.

Joe Pasternak produced, and Henry Koster directed from a screenplay by Myles Connolly, based on the story, "La Mort du Cygne," by Paul Morand. Herbert Stothart did the musical score, and David Lichine handled the dance direction.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

FCC Approves New Television Stations

WASHINGTON, July 29.—Scripps-Howard Radio, Inc., has been granted construction permits and licenses for two experimental television stations in the Cleveland area by the Federal Communications Commission. Allen B. DuMont has been given licenses for new experimental relay stations in New York and Washington.

PRC Adds 2 Branch Salesmen and Booker

Louis Berman has joined PRC as a salesman in Los Angeles under manager George Lefko. Charles Kaselman has entered the company as a salesman in Philadelphia under manager Harry Berman. Also added to the Philadelphia branch is David Sager who has taken over student booker duties.

Balaban JWF Group Flies Abroad Today

A committee of Chicago businessmen, headed by John Balaban, secretary-treasurer of Balaban and Katz and chairman of the Chicago 1947 Jewish Welfare campaign, will leave New York by plane today for a month's survey in Europe and Palestine of the effect of general conditions on the Jews in those areas. With its itinerary including the Holy Land, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Italy, France and England, the group hopes to ascertain food and other needs and to study resettlement and rehabilitation problems.

Accompanying Balaban will be William K. Hollander, B. and K. advertising chief; Leon Caine, president of Caine Steel Co.; Harry I. Hoffman, president of J. S. Hoffman Co.; Irving Kupcinet of the *Chicago Daily Times;* Abram Pritzker, attorney, and Nathan Cummings, president of Consolidated Grocers, who is co-chairman of the drive.

The Chicago Jewish Welfare Fund drive has a goal of $12,000,000 for 1947. The sum is part of the national campaign of the United Jewish Appeal for $170,000,000.

Columbia in Counter Suit Against Parks

LOS ANGELES, July 29.—Columbia has filed a suit against Larry Parks, film actor, asking that Federal court declare the company's rights and duties under its contract with Parks, and contending that a second contract signed by him was valid.

Parks filed a suit in Superior Court alleging he signed "under duress" a contract with the company increasing his salary. He alleged that before he got the role of Al Jolson in "The Jolson Story" he was informed that if he didn't sign he would receive only inferior roles in the future.

Parks contended that a seven-year contract he signed on Sept. 28, 1945, at $750 to $1,000 a week, actually was not a new one, but a continuation of one expiring Nov. 1, 1948, at $100 to $600 a week. He asked nullification of the contract.

Elect Spier Head of Cal. Theatre Group

SAN FRANCISCO, July 29.—Richard Spier of Fox West Coast Theatres has been named president of the Northern California Theatres Association at the group's annual meeting held here.

Other officers include: Ben Levine, first vice-president; Roy Cooper, second vice-president and treasurer, and L. S. Ham, secretary and legal adviser. Directors include: Lee Dibble, Harry Franklyn, Robert Lippert, George Nasser, C. V. Taylor, Sid Weisbaum and Jerry Zigmond, Hulda McGinn is in charge of public relations, and Charles Thall is executive secretary.

'Night' Shown Aug. 22

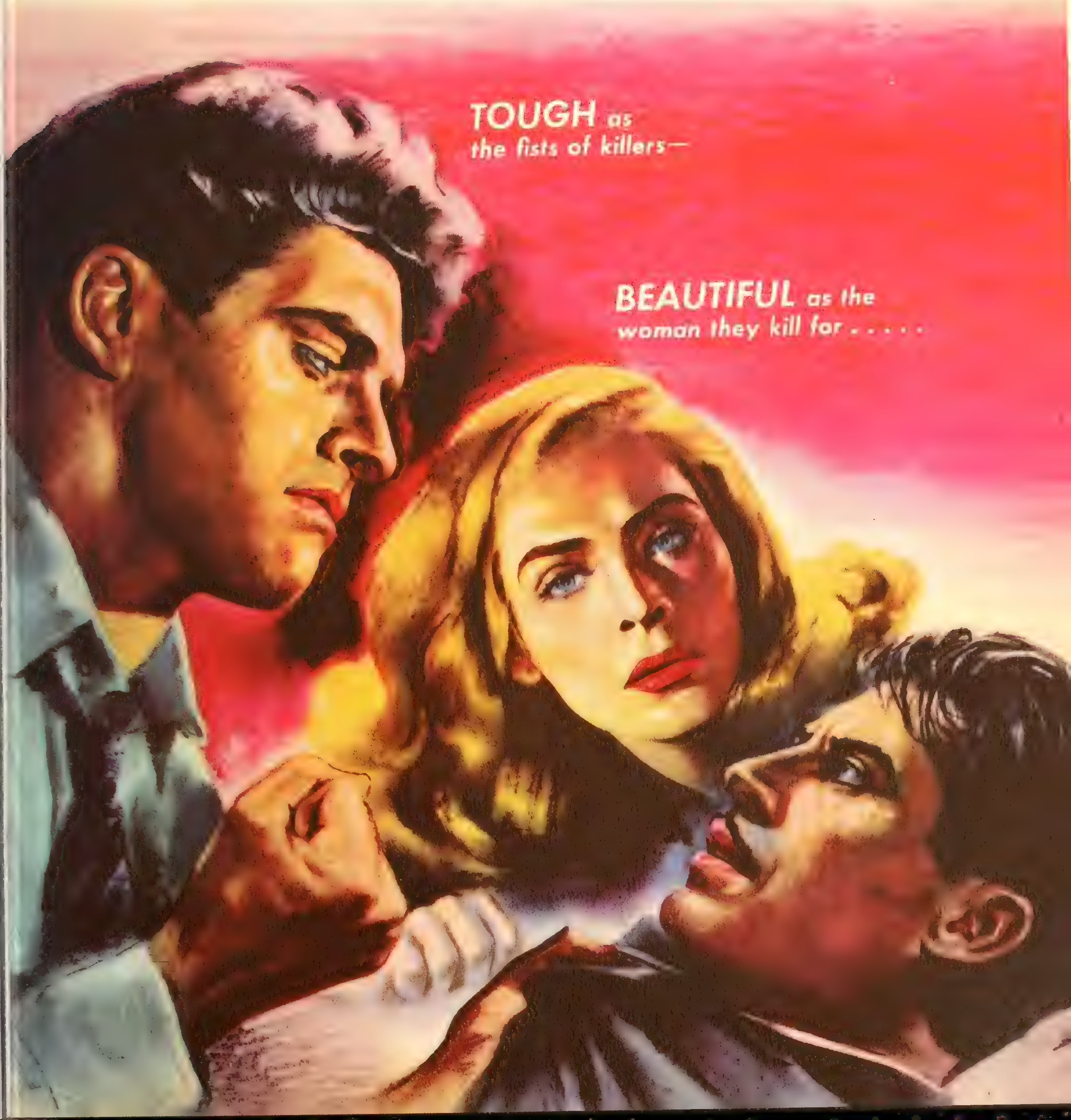
National tradeshowing of "Night Unto Night" has been set by Warner Brothers for Wednesday, Aug. 22. The picture is tentatively scheduled for late September release.

W. B. Harrison Named

W. Benton Harrison, Jr., has been elected treasurer of General Aniline and Film Corp.

From the Savage Grandeur
of the West's Sun-Swept Horizons Comes

THE FIRST EPIC ROMANCE OF THE DESERT TODAY


TOUGH as the fists of killers—
BEAUTIFUL as the woman they kill for . . . . .

Hal Wallis'

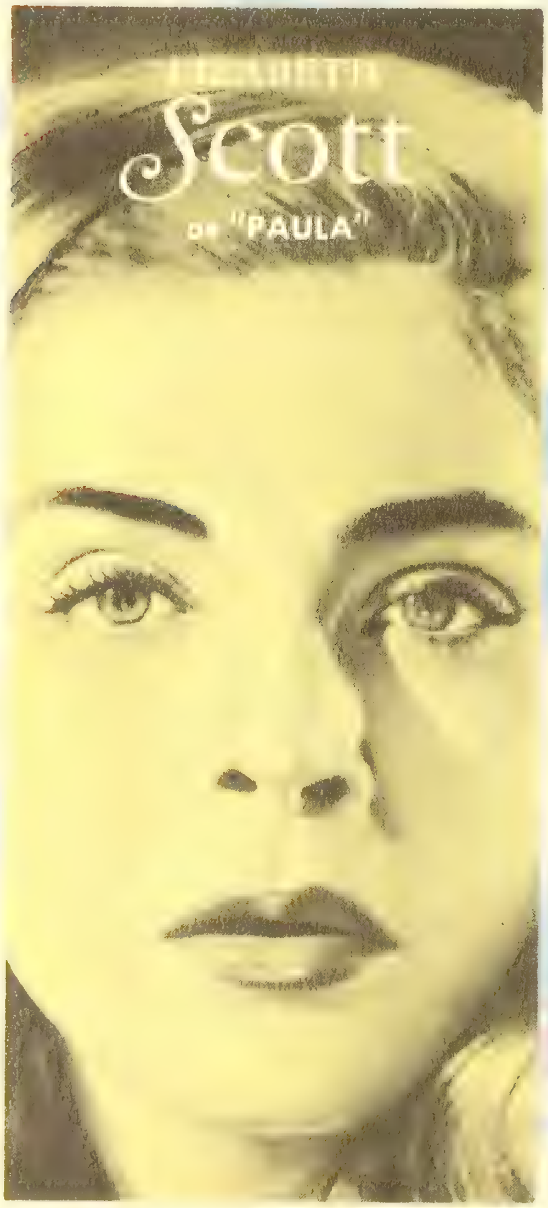
Deser

These are the *Five*

WHO BRING ALIVE THE YEAR'S BOLDEST SCRIPT— IN FLAMING COLOR AND PANORAMIC PRODUCTION

•

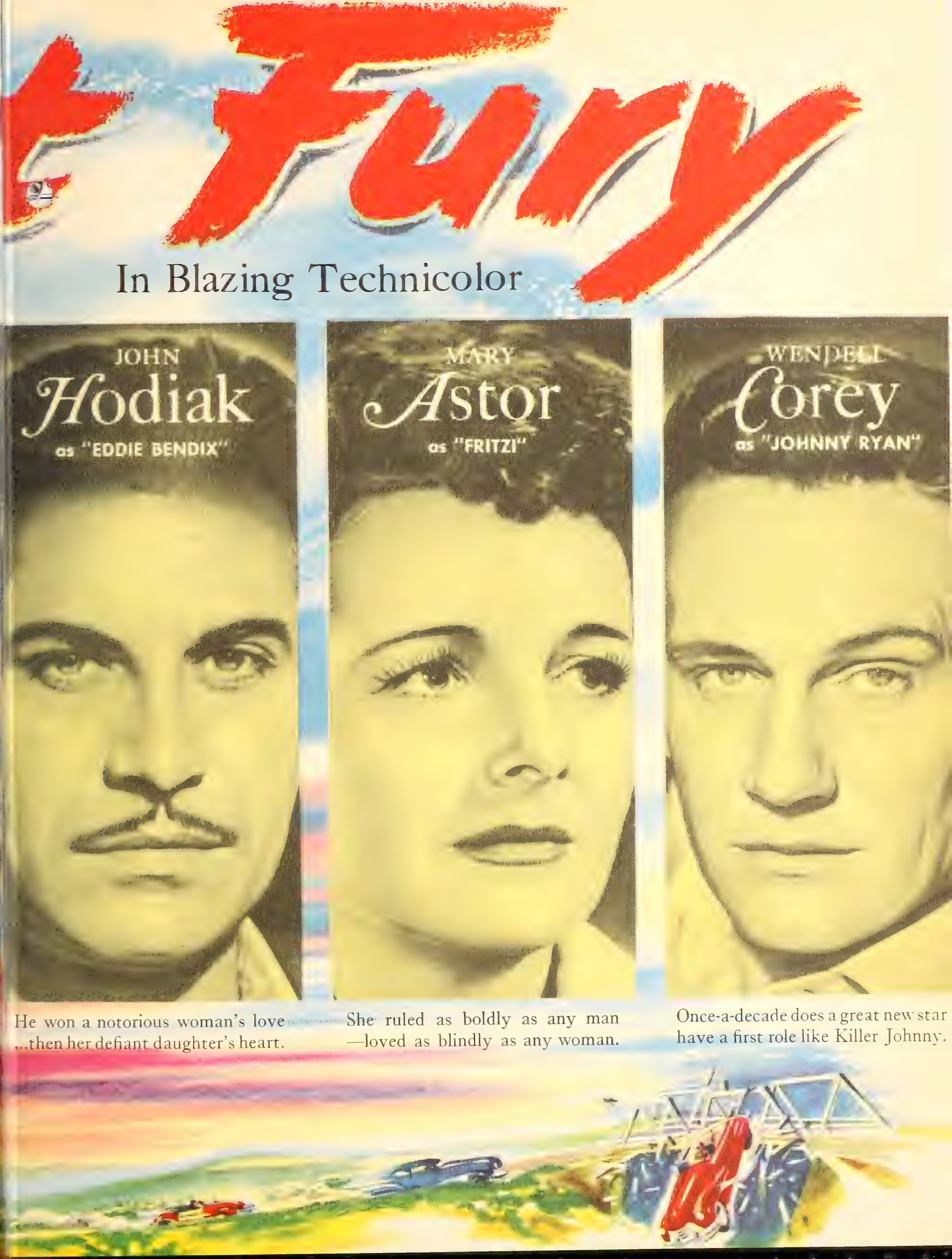
A story that sweeps with sinister and growing menace thru sun-baked desert towns, luxurious ranches, colorful gambling houses to the greatest chase climax ever recorded by cameras.


ELIZABETH
Scott
as "PAULA"

Two men wanted her love... the third wanted her life.

BURT
Lancaster
as "TOM HANSON"

Sensation of "The Killers," he's dynamite with the fuse lit.



Fury

In Blazing Technicolor

JOHN
Hodiak
as "EDDIE BENDIX"

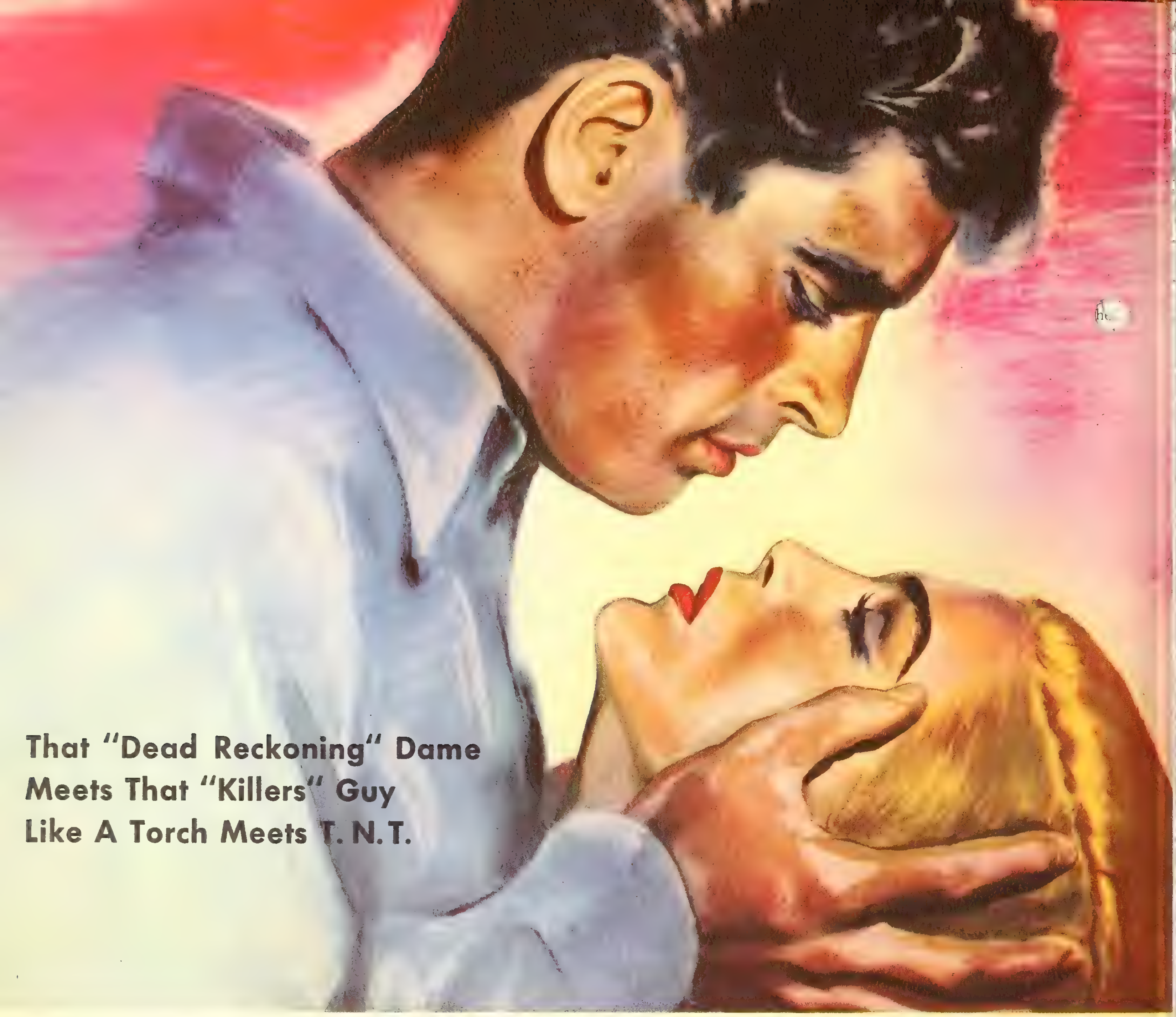
MARY
Astor
as "FRITZI"

WENDELL
Corey
as "JOHNNY RYAN"

He won a notorious woman's love ...then her defiant daughter's heart.

She ruled as boldly as any man —loved as blindly as any woman.

Once-a-decade does a great new star have a first role like Killer Johnny.


That "Dead Reckoning" Dame
Meets That "Killers" Guy
Like A Torch Meets T. N. T.

His fire, *her* allure, *their* desert-hot romancing heralded in full-color, big-space national magazine ads to give country-wide penetration to the news that thunderbolt entertainment is on the way!

HAL WALLIS'
Production

Desert Fury

Color by Technicolor

LIZABETH SCOTT · JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER

with *MARY ASTOR* *and introducing* *WENDELL COREY*

Directed by LEWIS ALLEN · [redacted] Screenplay by Robert Rossen

FROM PARAMOUNT

LITHO — U

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

Newcomer "Dear Ruth" at the Goldman, and "The Hucksters" in its second week at the Earle are doing standout business, but other houses report a summer *status quo.* Estimated receipts for the week ending July 29-31:

CYNTHIA (M-G-M)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,800)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $31,000. (Average: $24,000)
THE EGG AND I (U-I)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $27,000)
THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $31,700)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,200)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $21,000)
POSSESSED (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $29,500)
RAMROD (UA)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $12,700)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,500)

CHICAGO

Hot, humid summer weather caused a slight decline in Loop theatre business during the week. However, "Brute Force," at the Grand; "Dear Ruth,," at the Chicago, and "The Hucksters," at the State are among those bringing in very gratifying grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 28:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c). Gross: $24,900. (Average: $16,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) 3rd week. On stage: Jo Stafford and Victor Borge. Gross: $59,000. (Average: $59,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $25,500)
GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D.) (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)
THE HOMESTRETCH (20th - Fox) — ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c). Gross: $40,000. (Average: $30,000)
IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (1,200) (95c) 4th week. On stage: The Harmonicats and regular vaudeville. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $40,000)
REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) — WOODS (1,200) (95c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $17,500)
THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $26,500. (Average: $26,000)

BUFFALO

"Possessed," at the Buffalo, and "Odd Man Out," at the Lafayette, are the leaders here. Weather is still of the thunder-and-lightning variety. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 2:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—TECK (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 7th week, on a moveover. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)
GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (PRC)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $8,800. (Average: $10,000)
HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)
ODD MAN OUT (U-I) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,800. (Average: $15,000)
POSSESSED (WB)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $21,800. (Average: $19,000)
THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $9,400. (Average: $16,000)

CINCINNATI

Grosses were mixed. Registering well were "Black Gold," "The Hucksters" and "Dear Ruth." Estimated receipts for the week ending July 29-Aug. 1:

BLACK GOLD (Mono.-Allied Artists)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c 75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-70c-75c). Gross: $20,000 (Average: $15,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following an initial week at the Palace and first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)
IVY (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. Average: $7,500)
THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)
TRAIL TO SAN ANTONE (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **DESPERATE (RKO Radio).** Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **STARS OVER TEXAS (PRC).** Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

BOSTON

Continued good weather benefited grosses in the Hub area. Two holdovers, "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," at the Memorial, and "The Hucksters," at Loew's Orpheum and State, sustained above-average grosses for second weeks. "Dear Ruth," doubling with "Danger Street" at the Metropolitan, bowed in for a very strong week. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 30:

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $26,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $20,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,000)
MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—BOSTON (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,400)
POSSESSED (WB) and NEWS HOUNDS (Mono.) — FENWAY (1,700) (40c - 80c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,500)
POSSESSED (WB) and NEWS HOUNDS (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

PITTSBURGH

With weather conditions ideal for theatre attendance here, "The Hucksters" bowed in for a very strong opening at the Penn. Business in other theatres varies from fair to good. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 31:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from the Penn. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $2,200)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,700)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE WEB (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)
RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,000)
WINGS OF THE MORNING (Rep.) and HIT PARADE OF 1947 (Rep.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

Allied to Ask

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the effect that Ascap contemplates raising its rates."

The executive committee also requested Myers to report on whether the *amicus curiae* brief which Allied intends to file in the Supreme Court in the industry anti-trust case, should be presented in the name of Allied alone or should include other independent exhibitor organizations. He was also asked to make recommendations on the contents of the brief.

The meeting today formally approved applications of two new groups for membership in National Allied. They are the Allied Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres, with headquarters in Denver, and the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States, with headquarters in New Orleans.

Plans for a "grass roots campaign" for complete repeal of the 20 per cent admissions tax were ratified at the meeting, which directed exhibitor committees to be set up immediately to pressure home-coming legislators.

No decision was reached, however, as to whether an Allied spokesman would appear before the House Ways and Means Committee to urge repeal, and Myers said that would depend on "when and if" the House unit holds further hearings.

General plans for the December national convention in Milwaukee were also approved at the meeting, and William Ainsworth was formally selected as chairman.

Dembow Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

forthcoming Charles (Buddy) Rogers-Ralph Cohn production of "Sleep My Love," starring Claudette Colbert, Robert Cummings and Don Ameche.

Dembow will leave Hollywood Thursday for a swing around the country to contact United Artists' branch managers, salesmen and exhibitors on the picture. He is presently huddling with Paul N. Lazarus Jr., UA advertising-publicity head and Joseph Curtis of Weiss and Geller on the national advertising and exploitation campaign planned for the picture.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

Now," with Abbott and Costello in person, gave the Roxy $22,000 and the top money has continued to pour in since, indicating $122,000 for the week. At the Music Hall, "Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," in an unusual show of strength, is headed for a first week's gross of $150,000; the film, accompanied by a stage presentation, drew $91,000 Thursday through Sunday.

A holdover favorite is "The Hucksters" at the Capitol where the stage show includes Tony and Sally De Marco, Ted Straeter and Charles Trenet. An estimated $94,000 is in view for the second week; the show concluded its initial week with $114,000, an increase of $10,000 over early estimates.

"Brute Force," at the Criterion, is likely to wind up a second week with $35,000, which is normally good business, but an incredible drop under the first week's $62,000. An estimated $60,000 is apparent for the third week of "Perils of Pauline," with Phil Spitalny's orchestra, at the Paramount, which is good enough; the show holds for a fourth week, to be followed by "Welcome Stranger" on Aug. 6.

"Cry Wolf," with Freddie Martin's orchestra, at the Strand, is headed for a sound $45,000 for a second week, while at the Hollywood, "Possessed" is doing moderately with $13,500 figured for a ninth week.

"Gunfighters" bowed in at the Victoria with fairly successful results, the first week's business being estimated at $17,000. "Wyoming," at the Globe, encountered some difficulties, returns for the first week being put at $11,500; it will continue.

A mild $18,000 is apparent for the second week of "They Won't Believe Me," at the Palace. "Best Years of Our Lives" is fair enough with $18,000 indicated for a 36th week at the Astor. "Apache Rose" and "Sioux City Sue" faltered at the Rialto where a week's run brought $5,000; they were succeeded yesterday by "The Key Witness."

"Slave Girl" is sluggish in its second week at two spots, the Winter Garden, where a $13,000 gross is likely, and at the Park which looks for $4,000. "Dillinger" and "Mutiny in Big House" open at the Gotham today, replacing "Congorilla" and "Borneo," the latter combination having brought $6,500 on Saturday through yesterday, three days short of a third week. Two United Artists reissues, "Lady of Burlesque" and "The Great John L," will move into the Broadway on Friday. "Copacabana" probably will wind up its third and final week at that house with a poor $7,000 gross.

MAGNIFICENT Fireproof 7-Story Building in Jersey City; ideal for studio, movies, films, warehouse, etc. Large cathedral windows. 126,000 square feet and land adjoining. Railroad sidings. 3 minutes from Hudson Tubes Cortlandt Street station. For sale or lease. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

Walsh to Testify at Labor Probe Aug. 5

As soon as Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, approached his luggage on the pier here yesterday, after leaving the *SS Mauretania*, from England he was served with a subpoena to appear before a House labor sub-committee hearing in Hollywood Aug. 5.

The committee has served similar subpoenas on other industry leaders to appear at the Hollywood session. It is investigating labor practices in the film and other industries.

Walsh Returns

(*Continued from page* 1)

knows the situation," Walsh said. "If the government there taxes U. S. films, there might be reciprocal taxes here, and that would be unfortunate right after the visit of Rank."

Walsh offered this comment upon arrival here on the *SS Mauretania*, after a six-week stay abroad, during which he visited England, Scotland, Ireland and Belgium. He reported that he had returned with a draft of a reciprocal agreement on interchanging technicians reached among IATSE, NATKE and the Association of Cine-Technicians.

The agreement will be presented for approval to the 'IA' international executive board, which meets for one week in Boston, starting Aug. 18. Walsh will also give the board a copy of a recent jurisdictional agreement between NATKE, ACT and the British electrical trades union, which he believes may be useful in efforts to settle the Hollywood studio strike.

Walsh disclosed that he had been delegated by British unions to contact the Screen Directors Guild and similar organizations for possible extension of the exchange agreement.

Commenting on Herbert K. Sorrell's recent proposal that Pat Casey arbitrate the studio strike, Walsh said: "Sorrell has nothing to do with it. (William) Hutcheson (head of the carpenters' union) is the one to do something, and nobody has heard from him. The dispute is between the carpenters and the IATSE. Sorrell is only the representative of the painters' union. Hutcheson at no time has suggested anything. There's no use arbitrating something which has been arbitrated, and on which nothing has been done."

Walsh emphatically reiterated that Willie Bioff is not connected with his union, in reply to a question concerning the court suit by the Conference of Studio Unions, in which it was alleged that Bioff is still influential in the 'IA.'

"If they can prove that Bioff has anything to do with the 'IA,' I'll resign as president of the union," Walsh asserted.

James F. McCaffery

CLEVELAND, July 29.—James F. McCaffery, 50, former president of the Motion Picture Studio Mechanics, Hollywood, died here yesterday. He was a past secretary of the Theatrical Employees' Union and a member of the Stagehands Union.

Review

"Deep Valley"

(*Warner*)

Hollywood, July 29

SHOWMEN whose customers have been clamoring for "something different" can tell them this is it. If the different is indeed the thing the customers really want, there should be no dissatisfaction. It is for showmen to know, however, that the picture is drab, the story grim, the cast competently drab and grim in the execution of it, and the tension tight throughout. Ida Lupino, in an expert portrayal of the stammering daughter of neurotic parents, and Dane Clark, portraying a neurotic escapee from a penal road gang, are the romantic principals and the names to bill.

The picture opens in a dismal old house a bit back from the ocean front in Central California, with Miss Lupino slavishly dominated by a pseudo-invalid mother (Fay Bainter), who hasn't been downstairs in seven years, and a savage father who hasn't been upstairs for the same length of time. It comes out that Miss Lupino stammers because she saw her father strike her mother seven years ago.

A road-gang of convicts is blasting a highway through the neighborhood and, when one of them (Clark) strikes his attendant officer and is locked in a tool shed, from which a storm releases him, she is sympathetically affected. They meet later in a cabin in the mountains—he fleeing the law and she her parents—and fall in love, ultimately into an embrace of unindicated duration from which she emerges freed of her impediment.

Going back home to obtain clothes for Clark, Miss Lupino finds a posse all over the place, having returned from pursuing Clark unsuccessfully. She hides Clark in the hayloft of the family barn where he spends several days while the search goes on. She insists that Clark is not really a criminal, and he agrees with her until capture is imminent, whereupon he resorts again to violence, escapes after being wounded, and dies by her side in the forest. Meanwhile, the neurotic parents have made peace with each other and learned to play gin rummy from a State Trooper who's been interested in their daughter all along. At the picture's end, he appears on the point of persuading her that she should marry him. Wayne Morris plays the Trooper, a sort of stand-by role, and Henry Hull enacts the girl's father.

Henry Blanke produced and Jean Negulesco directed from a screenplay by Salka Viertel and Stephen Morehouse Avery based on a novel by Dan Totheric.

It's quite different stuff than's been coming along recently—incidentally, the first straight use of stammering on the screen—and strictly for adults.

Running time, 106 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

W. R. W.

Warner Profit

(*Continued from page* 1)

after adjustments for a two-for-one split of the common.

After eliminating inter-company transactions, Warners reported it had done a total business of $125,078,000 in film rentals, theatre admissions and other sales in the period covered. This, in turn, compares with $116,971,000 in the identical, preceding period.

Since May 31, 1947, the company has acquired in the open market 44,880 shares of its common stock, making a total of 105,380 shares now held in the treasury which, by general impression, is to be used for theatre purchases as required in the consent decree in the anti-trust case.

Productions completed, but yet to be released, were listed at $22,927,183. Amortization of film costs is down for $24,892,298 and operating and general expenses at $63,376,491. Profit, before providing for Federal taxes, was $31,034,639. Earned surplus carried to the balance sheet as of May 31 was $51,904,998.

Deny Rank Studio Deal

LONDON, July 29.—Press dispatches reaching New York from London on Monday, which reported J. Arthur Rank is taking over studios in seven foreign countries in an effort to increase Britain's motion picture revenue, have been denied here.

Midwest Sets Meeting

KANSAS CITY, July 29.—The annual fall managers' meeting of Fox Midwest will be held Aug. 18-19, at the Hotel Muehlebach, here.

Majors' Profits

(*Continued from page* 1)

to $35 weekly, 512 had no provision for medical attention, 682 were unable to save any money, and 421 had no insurance, the brief says. Of 582 employes earning from $35 to $45 weekly. 261 had no provision for medical attention, 373 were unable to save any money, and 196 had no insurance. Of 396 employes earning $45 and over, 92 had no provision for medical attention, 241 were unable to save any money, and 84 had no insurance.

SOPEG contends that the total cost of its demands "comes to the extremely low total of 1.3 per cent of the 1946 net profits after taxes." It declares that Paramount, for example, "increased its net earnings after taxes from $2,533,000 in 1938 to $43,000,000 in 1946, which is not only the all-time high earning figure for the company but also for the entire industry."

The brief also declares that RKO increased its net earnings from a deficit of $186,000 in 1938 to a profit of $12,187,000, "an all-time high earning figure for this company." 20th Century-Fox increased its net earnings from $7,252,000 in 1938 to $22,600,000 in 1946, "an all-time high earning figure for this company," according to the brief.

The brief further says: "Aside from the tremendous earnings of the corporations, they have been able to register a phenomenal reduction in their funded debt, thus reducing their future annual carrying charges, guaranteeing increased profits."

Jones Named to RCA Hollywood Film Post

HOLLYWOOD, July 29.—The appointment of Watson Jones as manager of RCA's Hollywood film recording sales was announced here by Barton Kreuzer, manager of RCA films recording activities.

Jones, who succeeds W. V. Wolfe, has been associated with RCA in the motion picture field for nearly 20 years. For the past 17 years, he has been active in the sale and installation of RCA equipment in studios [illegible]

Jones joined RCA in 1[illegible] and worked on theatre sound reproduction problems until 1930, when he was transferred to Hollywood.

Clemence, Columbia Publicist, Dies

William B. Clemence, 66, veteran newspaper man and publicity writer for Columbia, died yesterday at his home in New York following a lingering illness. He was actively at his Columbia desk until last Friday. He is survived by his widow and son John Clemence of Philadelphia.

Born in London, he came here at an early age and at various times was employed by the New York *Times* and *Variety*. He had been with Columbia since 1931.

Warner Sales Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

executive producer, will not be present at the New York sales meeting, but he will address the Chicago convention at the Blackstone Hotel, August 4-6.

These meetings mark the first time in five years where WB salesmen will have the opportunity to meet the heads of the company. Throughout the war years, as a travel conservation measure, no national sales conventions were held by Warners.

Among topics to be discussed by Harry Warner at tomorrow's meeting will be the industry's present economic status and future outlook, both in this country and abroad. He also will talk on how the sales force, through its direct contact with exhibitors can play a key part in broadening the public service and educational functions of the screen.

Albert Warner's main subject will be distribution, to which he has given most of his attention for about 40 years. He will discuss the progress that has been made and the new efficiencies in prospect for expediting the marketing of films.

1st of MPA Series

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the first short, the Warner-produced "Power Behind the Nation." Cheyfitz, who brought the print back with him from the Coast, will take it to New York for a showing at the Warner sales meeting tomorrow or Thursday, and if Johnston does not catch it there, he will see it on his return here at the end of the weekend.

Distribution details for the series are being worked out by David Palfreyman of the MPA and Norman Moray of Warners in cooperation with other film companies. Profits from the series will go to the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund.

Cheyfitz said he did not expect plans to be ready for several months for a second series, planned under the Academy's guidance. This series is tentatively titled "The Story Behind the Films."

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
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62. NO. 22 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1947 TEN CENTS

Advertising Code Given Added Teeth

Revised Instrument Gets MPA Board's Approval

The industry's system of voluntary self-regulation of advertising was broadened yesterday when directors of the Motion Picture Association unanimously approved a modernization and strengthening of the code functioning through the Advertising Advisory Council since June 6, 1930.

Keynote of the changes was incorporated in a new preamble which committed member companies and all others by invitation to this credo:

> **"The purpose of the Advertising Code is to apply to motion picture advertising, publicity and exploitation, within their range, the high-principles which the Production Code applies to the content of motion pictures."**

New regulatory provisions are extended to embrace radio copy and advertising agents. MPA member companies pledge themselves to have all of their advertising, no matter in what form or in what media, "conform to fact" and to "scrupulously avoid all misrepresentation." Where clothed fig-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Tax Receipts Up $400,000

WASHINGTON, July 30. — General admission tax collections in June, reflecting May box-office receipts, totaled $27,829,982, $400,000 above the June, 1946, collections of $27,422,536, but well below the May, 1947, total, according to the Treasury Department. The May, 1947, figure was $31,266,930.

The figures for general admissions do not include collections from roof gardens, cabarets, ticket brokers, leases of boxes or seats, or overcharges. The June, 1947, figure for all admission tax collections, including the latter types and general admissions, totaled $32,417,990, compared to $32,855,313 for last June and $36,145,428 for May, 1947.

Chief reason for the drop in the current June all-tax total, as compared with that for June, 1946, was a decrease of about $750,000 in roof garden and cabaret tax collections.

Public Relations Campaign Brewing

Up and probably coming is a broad-scale public relations campaign on a nation-wide basis. The plan, conceived by the Eastern Public Information Committee, of which all major company advertising and publicity executives are members, reportedly has been submitted in its initial form to the directors of the Motion Picture Association.

No formal action has been taken thus far.

Kirsch Plan Is Optional

WASHINGTON, July 30. — Allied States Association's executive committee has recommended that Allied president Jack Kirsch's plan for handling exhibitor complaints be put on an optional basis for Allied member groups.

Abram F. Myers, general counsel, announced here today at the close of a two-day executive committee meeting, that since all Allied members were not represented on the executive com-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Marshall Plan Films Sprout Peculiarities

Eric A. Johnston's "disclosure" upon his arrival from London last Friday that the industry would throw its weight behind Secretary of State Marshall's plan for the rehabilitation of Europe took peculiar twists here yesterday. Following a meeting of the Motion Picture Association board, Johnston was vague in answering queries on the program of producing films supporting the Marshall idea, a program which he had previously described as definite, and one which would be put into effect at the earliest moment.

Last Friday the MPA president said

(*Continued on page 6*)

SEC Lists 20th-Fox And RKO Salaries

PHILADELPHIA, July 30. — Betty Grable collected $299,333 from 20th Century-Fox in 1946, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission report released yesterday. Spyros P.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Move to Stem UK Film Tax Is Still Studied

No Conclusions at MPA Meet as Deadline Nears

A feasible plan to stem proposed *ad valorem* duties on U. S. films in England was discussed at length by the Motion Picture Association board at a meeting here yesterday with Eric A. Johnston, president, and while the issue must be resolved within 10 days, or not at all, no conclusions were reached. An assortment of ideas were brought up at the meeting, but were dismissed for the most part as "unadaptable" to the situation, Johnston admitted.

> **The entire matter is "laden with dynamite,"—one director put it.**

Following the session, Johnston said a proposal of a "freeze" on dollar remittances over a certain level was among the many considered.

The "dynamite" situation, Johnston admitted, shapes up this way: British Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton has been empowered to impose *ad valorem* duties as he sees fit. And, unless the U. S. industry offers an agreeable alternate to the British, Dalton will exert that power.

Johnston said that yesterday's meeting at the MPA will in effect be continued by telephone conversations be-

(*Continued on page 6*)

100 at WB Meet Today

Over 100 members of the Warner sales organization, including home office executives, district managers, branch managers and salesmen from the Eastern division and Canada, will gather this morning at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here for the opening of a three-day meeting, to be presided

(*Continued on page 8*)

4 Reviews Today

"Springtime in the Sierras" and "Sepia Cinderella" on page 3; "Gas House Kids Go West" and "Shop Girls of Paris", page 6. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Film Advertising Code: The New One and the Old

In parallel columns herewith is the text of the new and the amended advertising codes under which all member companies of the Motion Picture Association function through the Advertising Advisory Council.

In the left column is the instrument as implemented under its original June 6, 1930, date. In the right is the modernized code which bears yesterday's date. Italicized type represents changes in phraseology or new material:

June 6, 1930	July 30, 1947
AN ADVERTISING CODE TO REFLECT THE HIGH QUALITY OF MOTION PICTURES	AN ADVERTISING CODE FOR MOTION PICTURES
With the universal acceptance of the talking motion picture, the producers deemed it wise and necessary to adopt a new and amplified code of principles to guide the production of this new form of entertainment.	*PREAMBLE:* *The purpose of the Advertising Code is to apply to motion picture advertising, publicity and exploitation, within their range, the high principles which the Production Code applies to the content of motion pictures.*
It is appropriate that those responsible for the advertising of	The provisions of the Advertising Code shall apply to pressbooks,

(*Continued on page 8*)

Coast Extras Win 'Work Right' Suit

HOLLYWOOD, July 30.—In a decision considered possibly precedental with respect to the Taft-Hartley law, Superior Judge Frank C. Swain yesterday issued an injunction restraining the Screen Extras Guild, Central Casting Corp. and producers, from refusing jobs to three complainants, who filed suit last June in behalf of themselves and other extras in like position. The three had asserted that membership had been denied them because they were over the 30-year age limit fixed by the Guild for new members.

Judge Swain ruled that the Guild has no right to bar extra players from membership if doing so interferes with their right to work.

German Film Plan Still Unsettled

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Assistant Secretary of War Petersen said today he would not be able to clear up the German film question before leaving office tomorrow, and that he was turning over the problem to Maj. Gen. Noce, chief of the Army's civil affairs division.

Army officials, meanwhile, indicated that Gen. Clay was forwarding a suggested press release on the German film program from Berlin for War Department approval, and that release might be made in Berlin only, or jointly in Berlin and Washington.

Honor Seidelman at E-L Luncheon Today

Sam L. Seidelman, Eagle-Lion foreign chief, who will leave New York next week for a South American survey, will be honor guest at a luncheon which the company will give today at Toots Shor's, here. Foreign and domestic trade press representatives will attend.

Also present will be: Robert S. Benjamin, president, Rank Organization, and Jock Lawrence, vice-president; Nick Tronolone, vice-president, Pathe Laboratories; T. H. Bierce, comptroller, Pathe Industries, and C. Warren Sharpe, treasurer; Jerome Edwards and Stewart Benjamin, Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim; Harold Dunn, assistant general sales manager, PRC; Lloyd L. Lind, president, Pictorial Films; Harry Kosiner, Edward Small Productions, Inc. Eagle-Lion Films executives who will attend include: Arthur B. Krim, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Max E. Youngstein, Jerry Pickman, Arthur Jeffrey, Hal Danson, Michael Hoffay, George Fleitman, Michael Shathin and Milton Yeoman.

Stanley Chambers, 58

CHICAGO, July 30.—Stanley Chambers, 58-year-old veteran showman, died Monday at his home in Evanston. He had been with the Essaness Circuit, and at the time of his death was managing the Argmore Theatre. Services and interment will be at Wichita, Kan. He is survived by the widow.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, wil leave here by plane for the Coast today.

•

WILLIAM Z. PORTER, contract manager at the Monogram studio, has flown back to Hollywood after conferences here with EDWARD MOREY, Monogram vice-president, and SI BORUS, Eastern contract manager.

•

NEIL AGNEW, Selznick Releasing Organization distribution chief, is due back here from the Coast over the weekend. MILTON KUSELL, general sales manager, returned here from the Coast yesterday.

•

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager, returned to the home office here yesterday from a countrywide tour.

•

ROBERT BOTHWELL has been shifted from city manager in Helena, Mont., for Fox Intermountain to manager of the Aladdin in Denver.

•

"LUCKIE" STEIN and CARL FLOYD, of Floyd and Stein Theatres, Florida, were in Atlanta from Charlotte on business.

•

DOUGLAS R. JOHNSON has been named a booker-trainee at Producers Releasing Corporation's Atlanta exchange.

•

DAVID FARRAR, J. Arthur Rank Organization player, will arrive here from London Aug. 5 on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

ROBERT TAPLINGER, Enterprise vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, is here from Hollywood.

•

JOE ROBERTS of Vanguard Films has returned to New York from a Southern business trip.

•

WILLIAM B. JAFFE, film industry attorney, has returned to New York from a Maine vacation.

•

DUDLEY NICHOLS, RKO Radio producer-director, is due here tomorrow from the Coast.

•

EDWARD W. GAVIN has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as salesman in Milwaukee.

•

SAM SNIDER, Australian independent exhibitor, is visiting New York.

•

OLIVER UNGER arrived here yesterday by plane from Europe.

•

D. L. TURNER, Altec branch manager in Atlanta, is in town.

HERBERT J. YATES, president of Republic, will return to Hollywood today immediately after a board meeting here.

•

ERWIN W. RAU, owner-manager of the Alice Theatre, Leitchfield, Ky., is at St. Joseph's Hospital, Louisville, for an eye operation.

•

HENRY A. LINET, Universal-International Eastern advertising manager, returned to New York yesterday from Cincinnati.

•

JOHN G. KEMPTGEN, M-G-M Milwaukee manager, left yesterday for the Wisconsin city following a vacation here.

•

N. J. COLQUHOUN, Republic district manager, has returned to Dallas from a business trip to Memphis.

•

WILLIAM E. OSBORNE, Monogram Far Eastern representative, has arrived in Wellington, N. Z.

•

H. A. MOORE, National Theatre Supply Co. salesman, has transferred from Memphis to Dallas.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Allied Artists producer, will go to England on Aug. 27 for a two-month stay.

•

R. J. INGRAM, Columbia Southeastern district manager, has returned to Atlanta from Charlotte.

•

JACK KIRBY, Warner Southeastern district manager, has returned to Atlanta from Charlotte.

•

CAROL BRANDT, M-G-M Eastern story head, is on the Coast from New York for two weeks.

•

SAUL ELKINS, Warner writer-director, has returned to the Coast studio from Canada.

•

JOSEPH R. VOGEL, Loew vice-president, on vacation, motoring through New England.

•

JIM MCCARTHY, manager of the Warner Strand Theatre, Hartford, is on vacation.

•

BORIS KAPLAN, Paramount's Eastern talent head, is back here following a vacation.

•

JOE SIMON, city manager of Flexer Theatres, Memphis, is vacationing in Chicago.

•

JOHN P. BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is in Buffalo from New York.

Feature Productions Planned by Marino

CHARLOTTE, July 20.—Plans for the production of feature-length pictures have been announced by Sam Marino, producer of the Carolina Newsreel Reporter, newsreel of Carolina events.

Marino, a former motion picture cameraman, said that he expects to build a studio here. Included in the buildings would be a film laboratory.

N. Y. Group Favors UN Lobby Displays

The executive committee of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association has approved the displaying of a set of miniature flags of the 55 United Nations and a set of seven posters, in the lobbies of member theatres, beginning Sept. 7th and closing Sept. 20th, for the second annual United Nations Week.

Coming Events

Today-August 2—Warner Brothers sales meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.

August 4-6—Warner Brothers sales meeting, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.

August 5—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut annual golf tournament, Racebrook Country Club, Orange, Conn.

August 7-8—Warner Brothers sales meeting, New York.

August 12-14—Southeastern Theatre Owners Association convention, Variety Club headquarters, Miami.

August 14-September 10—International Film Festival, Venice.

September 30-October 1—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association for Kansas and Western Missouri annual convention, Phillips Hotel, Kansas City.

Balaban, Skouras At Southern Meet

ATLANTA, July 30.—The Southeastern Theatre Owners' convention will feature addresses by Barney Balaban, Spyros Skouras and E. V. Richards on the Motion Picture Foundation. The convention will be held at the Alcazar Hotel, Miami, Aug. 12-14.

Also, Hal Pereira of Paramount Theatres, will discuss the new trend in theatre architecture, W. C. Hughes will discuss fire and accident prevention, and there will be discussions by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager of RKO; Francis Harmon of the Motion Picture Association, and Robert Barton, legal representative of the Confederacy of Southern Associations. Local problems will be discussed by a number of Southeastern exhibitors.

Schenck Authority in UA Still Hangs Fire

HOLLYWOOD, July 30.—While effectuation of the plan under which Joseph Schenck would select the new United Artists president and take temporary charge of the company management continued in abeyance late today over the question of whether Charles Chaplin, UA co-owner, would give the 20th Century-Fox executive his power of attorney, Schenck indicated confidence that Chaplin's reluctance would be overcome.

All principals involved, however, withheld official comment on efforts being made to persuade Chaplin to yield the authority similar to that given Schenck by Mary Pickford.

Ireton Resigns Post

TORONTO, July 30.—Glenn Ireton, publicity director in Canada for Warner Brothers, tonight announced his resignation, effective Aug. 9, in order to set up his own promotional firm here. He will become head of Ireton, McGuire and Associates.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue. Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Coast 'Red' Probe Called 'Preventive'

WASHINGTON, July 30.—The House Un-American Activities Committee's investigation of Communism in Hollywood, scheduled to begin here Sept. 23, was supported today as "a dose of preventive medicine," by one of the committee's members, Rep. Nixon of California.

Nixon said that spotlighting Com[illegible]t influences in the film capital m[illegible]t prevent Communists, in the event of another depression, from stirring up public opinion through "this important medium."

The California Republican predicted that the hearings would be "sensational," adding that the committee would produce witnesses who would testify that they had seen prominent film figures at Communist meetings and who would report what these persons said.

Nixon admitted that most of the big name stars who will be mentioned will be described as "Pink" rather than "Red," and that key Communists in Hollywood are not well known nationally. He stated that there has been no evidence of Communists ever getting a complete party line picture produced, but merely getting small bits of "Red" propaganda in films.

Set for Labor Hearings

WASHINGTON, July 30.—Rep. Hartley, chairman of the House Labor Committee, will participate in subcommittee hearings opening in Hollywood Aug. 4 on the labor situation here. Sub-committee Chairman Kearns will also participate.

Cite Hollingshead, Guthrie, Curtiz

HOLLYWOOD, July 30.—Brig. Gen. W. A. Matheny, Deputy Commander of the 12th Air Force, has been designated by the War Department to head a military delegation to the Warner studio tomorrow to present citations to Gordon Hollingshead, William L. Guthrie and Michael Curtis.

At a luncheon to be given by Jack L. Warner, executive producer, civilian awards for patriotic services will be presented to Hollingshead, as chief of the short subject department; to Guthrie, as head of the location department, and to Curtiz, who directed "This Is the Army."

Durbin Film Preview For 'Disc Jockeys'

CHICAGO, July 30.—First annual convention of the National Association of Disc Jockeys will be held here at the Hotel Sherman on Aug. 15. Deanna Durbin, who just made "Something in the Wind" for U-I, will be one of the sponsors. Hugh Douglas is temporary chairman.

Highlights of the convention will include a long-distance call from Miss Durbin, which will open the convention; a preview of "Something in the Wind," and a luncheon at which it is expected Gov. Dwight Green of Illinois and Mayor Martin Kennelly of Chicago will speak.

Gulf ATO to Meet

NEW ORLEANS, July 30.—The board of directors of the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States will meet monthly on the last Tuesday of each month, it was decided at yesterday's meeting of the board.

Reviews

"Springtime in the Sierras"

(Republic)

WITH lively songs and two-fisted scrapping, "Springtime in the Sierras" carries Roy Rogers, Trigger, Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers through a quite adequate, although formula, plot. Done in Trucolor, several scenes of trained birds, squirrels, and other wild-life will appeal especially strong to "small fry" who will also cheer Roy's victory over the badmen.

Roy and the Sons of the Pioneers return to Roy's home town to deliver a herd of horses, and encounter Harry Cheshire, an old friend and game warden. Cheshire informs Roy that he is secretly tracking down a gang which is illegally slaughtering wild game and selling it for huge profits. Later Cheshire is killed by the gang and Roy determines to avenge his death and capture the killers.

Rogers learns that Hal Landon, brother of Roy's childhood sweetheart, Jane Frazee, is a member of the gang, which is headed by a woman, Stephanie Bachelor. Assisted by Andy Devine, town photographer, and by the Sons of the Pioneers, Roy overcomes dangerous complications to triumph over the killers. William Witney directed, from an original by A. Sloan Nibley. Morton Scott was musical director.

Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 15.

DAVID A. GORDON

"Sepia Cinderella"

(Herald Pictures)

IN a familiar story of a struggling band leader's rise to fame, "Sepia Cinderella," an all-Negro musical, presents well-known Negro entertainers in a night-club setting, and offers Freddie Bartholomew as a guest star.

Billy Daniels, the band leader, writes a song-hit, with the aid of Sheila Guyse. Tondaleyo, a wealthy night-club owner, brings Daniels' band into the Cinderella Club, after ousting Ruby Blakey and his band. Tiring shortly of Daniels, Tondaleyo discharges him, and Daniels finds himself in a struggling position again. Throughout the feeble plot the film is brightened by John Kirby and his band, and Deek Watson and his Brown Dots. Bartholomew is brought in through a guest appearance at the Cinderella Club.

Daniels returns triumphantly to the club as vocalist with Blakey's band, and is reunited with Sheila in a Cinderella slipper sequence. Daniels and Miss Guyse sing adequately, and Watson and the Dots effectively render a new number, "Long Legged Lizzie." Vincent Valentini wrote the story, Arthur Leonard directed, and Charlie Shavers did the score.

Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date,

D. A. G.

Film Costs 'Stifling' Independents: Levey

Jules Levey

Although they may not know it, Hollywood independent producers are virtually "out of business," because of excessive costs, independent producer Jules Levey said here yesterday, declaring that he intended to do something about the situation insofar as he personally is concerned.

Levey said that his first move will be to survey production possibilities in Europe. He will leave New York tomorrow for England on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* for a six-week trip through "every country I can get into." He hopes to find suitable studio space abroad to make his next picture for United Artists release.

Independent production in Hollywood is virtually at a standstill, Levey added, because of exorbitant production costs, responsibility for which he lays at the doorstep of labor.

High studio labor costs, and the resultant high production costs, he maintains, have also caused the foreign market for U. S. pictures to shrink, and no independent producer can hope to make a reasonable profit on his investments unless he can be assured of sizeable returns from overseas.

Pictures must be made at far less cost in the U. S. if American producers expect to recoup dwindling overseas markets, Levey declared, adding that he sees no indication whatsoever that Hollywood labor costs will go down. He said, too, that he regards most Hollywood stars' salaries as for too high for the most part.

Levey believes that relatively low production costs in Europe will solve his problem. While abroad he will also look over a number of story properties. If he does make a picture abroad—possibly in England, Italy or Czechoslovakia—Levey will use American stars.

FP-C Will Hold Two Partners' Meetings

TORONTO, July 30.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. will hold its annual district conventions for partners and affiliates as well as district managers in both Eastern and Western Canada, the former around the end of August, and both as a prelude to the new season.

Western conference dates have already been announced as Sept. 1-3 by Western division manager L. I. Bearg, the meeting to take place at Banff Springs in the Canadian Rockies.

Hold NY Foundation Meeting on Aug. 11

Aug. 11 has been set by Max A. Cohen, Motion Picture Foundation temporary chairman for the New York area, for a local MPF organizational meeting, which will be held at the Hotel Astor, here. The meeting, to which motion picture and allied industry representatives will be invited, will elect 11 Foundation committeemen for the New York area, a national trustee and a permanent chairman of the local organization.

UJA Honors Chicago Europe Study Group

John Balaban, secretary-treasurer of Balaban and Katz, Chicago, and chairman of the Chicago 1947 Jewish Welfare campaign, and the six other Chicago businessmen who left New York by plane last night for a survey of conditions affecting the Jews in Europe and Palestine, were guests at a farewell luncheon given by the United Jewish Appeal in the Hotel Astor here yesterday. Some 30 were on hand, with Malcolm Kingsberg, RKO Theatres president; Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Shain of 20th Century-Fox, representing the industry.

Schoenstadt Vice-Chairman Of Chicago UJA Campaign

CHICAGO, July 30.—Arthur Schoenstadt, head of the Schoenstadt Theatre Enterprises, here, has accepted the vice-chairmanship of the amusement division in Chicago's 1947 Jewish Welfare Fund drive to raise $12,000,000 as part of the national campaign of the United Jewish Appeal for $170,000,000 to aid European Jewry.

DuPont Net Rises $5,887,755 in Half

E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Co. and its wholly owned subsidiaries reported yesterday that net income for the six months ended June 30 was $61,619,650, equal to $5.13 a share on the 11,121,927 shares of common stock outstanding. For the same period in the previous year, net income came to $55,731,895, or $4.67 on the 11,121,962 common shares then outstanding.

Sales for the 1947 period rose to $378,671,184 from $307,852,718 in the six months of 1946. The company also deducted from this year's income a $10,500,000 provision for excessive construction costs, but included a credit of $4,300,000 for reversion of excess reserves for Federal taxes.

New Chan Series

HOLLYWOOD, July 30. — Inauguration of Monogram's new Charlie Chan series, with Roland Winters, will bring an increase of $100,000 in the budget for each film, it was announced by producer James S. Burkett.

N.W. Variety Golf Meet

HOLLYWOOD, July 30. — Annual golf tournament of Variety Club of the Northwest will be held at Oak Ridge Country Club on Aug. 8, M. A. Levy, golf committee chairman, reports.

CONVENTION OF THE

from Albany

R. S. SMITH
GEO. GOLDBERG
JOS. MOORE

from Atlanta

J. F. KIRBY
W. O. WILLIAMSON
H. R. KISTLER
C. T. JORDAN, JR.
J. H. BLACK
J. R. DICKSON
E. B. PRICE

from Boston

GEO. HORAN
J. McCARTHY
M. DAYTZ
W. KREMMELL
W. KUMINS
A. R. DAYTZ

from Buffalo

E. A. CATLIN
J. ZURICH
H. SCHIFFRIN
D. J. PASIN

from Calgary

M. SAIFER
M. BELKIN

from Charlotte

R. J. IANNUZZI
D. S. HOUSE
C. OGBURN
F. NEEL

from Chicago

H. A. SEED
A. J. SHUMOW
G. R. WEINBERG
R. C. HERMAN
B. F. ELROD
H. GOLDMAN
C. R. MORTEN
DAVID ROSE

from Cincinnati

J. S. ABROSE
J. P. EIFERT
R. J. BURNS
R. SALYER
W. L. KERR
C. A. SCHROEDER

from Cleveland

CHARLES RICH
J. M. WECHSLER
O. KANTOR
D. KAUFMAN
R. BIXLER

from Dallas

DOAK ROBERTS
W. DON WOODS
B. BURNSIDE
D. GOLDMAN
A. JONES
H. VOGELPOHL
A WOLF

from Denver

E. A. BELL
W. A. HAEFLIGER
L. E. HOBSON
E. RESNICK

from Des Moines

D. P. WEBSTER
L. C. HENSLER
J. R. LE VEE
J. M. HARRIS

from Detroit

R. H. DUNBAR
W. B. COLLINS
S. L. GILBERT
S. W. JOHNSON
T. LEVY

from Indianapolis

C. W. McKEAN
G. J. BLACK
R. S. SHRADER
G. DOWD

from Kansas City

R. C. BORG
J. T. MANFRE
H. WHEELER
G. HINTON
F. NORRIS
H. CASS

from Los Angeles

HENRY HERBEL
FRED GREENBERG
J. N. HOWLAND
W. R. WALSH
J. ROSENBERG
F. REIMER
H. SLATER

from Memphis

E. WILLIAMSON
F. CARTER
J. A. CARRUTH
J. A. OSBORNE

For the first time in five years a W
grand sales organization! This week a
the news from the double-header W
and Chicago *(Blackstone)*! Hats off and

FE WITH FATHER" BOYS

from Milwaukee
N. MARCUS
N. BIERINGER
L. DIZON
E. LIPSON

from Minneapolis
A. W. ANDERSON
H. T. BLASS
E. D. PERKINS
C. A. JACKSON
E. H. HILL
B. J. MESHBESHER
M. B. ADCOCK

from Montreal
G. KIELY
A. COHEN

from New Haven
CARL J. GOE
MAX BIRNBAUM

from New York
SAM LEFKOWITZ
C. EISEMAN
G. SOLOMON
H. P. DECKER
L. JACOBI
L ROTHENBERG
L. MAYER
J. C. VERGESSLICH

from New Orleans
L. CONNER
R. A. BOYKIN
I. OLROYD

from Philadelphia
W. G. MANSELL
C. BEILAN
B. F. BACHE
D. M. COOPER
O. B. GUILFOIL
T. N. NOBLE

from Pittsburgh
F. D. MOORE
J. KALMENSON
R. M. LYNCH
L. PEARLMAN
P. S. KRUMENACKER

from Oklahoma City
V. ADAMS
W. C. BLACKSTONE
G. LIVINGSTON
D. TULLIUS

from Omaha
F. J. HANNON
L. MENDELSON
W. D. WINK
R. W. HIRZ

from Portland
AL OXTOBY
M. F. KELLER
G. H. TRIPP

from Salt Lake City
W. F. GORDON
K. K. PACK
A. W. BARON
P. B. BROWN

from San Francisco
A. SHMITKEN
E. HAMPTON
L. JAMES
W. C. WHEELER

from Seattle
V. STEWART
J. W. SPEAR
H. J. KELLY

from St. John
M. KOMAR

from St. Louis
HALL WALSH
L. BONA
W. GLEASON
J. HILL
D. EDELE
S. GARBER

from Toronto
HASKELL MASTERS
I. COVAL
P. MYERS

from Vancouver
E. H. DALGLEISH

from Washington
ROBERT SMELTZER
F. W. BEIERSDORF
S. H. WILSON
J. A. WALKER
J. L. GARST, JR.
P. DeFAZIO

from Winnipeg
F. DAVIS
B. BROOKLER

er Sales Convention for our whole
ext week the big trade news will be
r meeting in New York *(Waldorf-Astoria)*
ay for the "Life with Father" boys!

Bulgaria Film Deal Concluded by MPEA

An interim distribution deal has been made with Filmsko Delo, Bulgarian Film Monopoly, for release of Motion Picture Export Association product in that country, Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of MPEA, announced yesterday. Under terms of the agreement, 20 new features and some short subjects selected from the product of MPEA member companies will be released through the Monopoly prior to March 31, 1948. This number will be supplemented by a group of member-company pictures previously withdrawn from Bulgaria and placed under seal with the American mission in Sofia.

The distribution setup in Bulgaria is patterned after that now in operation in Czechoslovakia and Poland, where MPEA is releasing films on percentage deals through the respective state Monopolies.

Conclusion of the agreement provides for the return of major American product to that country for the time in seven years. Final details were set in Sofia this week between Filmsko Delo officials and Louis Kanturek, MPEA supervisor for Eastern Europe, and Jean Birkhahn, MPEA's special home office representative. Birkhahn will remain in Sofia as MPEA's permanent representative.

Pending official ratification by the Bulgarian government, the directors of MPEA unanimously approved the agreement at a meeting held here yesterday presided over by MPEA president Eric Johnston.

The deal with Bulgaria marks the 11th of the 13 countries in the MPEA orbit to be opened to the product of America's major distributors. Yugoslavia and the USSR now remain the only two countries with whom agreements have not been reached.

SEC Lists Salaries

(*Continued from page* 1)

Skouras, the company's president, received an income of $255,922. All incomes reported are gross and do not include deductions for Federal and state taxes.

The report also disclosed that Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres Corp., may get $846,695 from National Theatres Amusement Co., Inc., a subsidiary. Payment has been deferred pending settlement of a stockholder's suit.

Base salary of Charles Skouras was $135,700 while Darryl F. Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of production, earned $260,000.

Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., of New York, reported the following salaries: N. Peter Rathvon, president, $104,540; Ned E. Depinet, vice chairman of the board, $105,010, and Malcolm Kingsberg, vice-president, $71,260.

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Reviews

"Gas House Kids Go West"

(PRC)

AS indicated in the title, the brash Gas House Kids in this one get a chance to raise a rumpus in the Golden West. A motor trip to the Coast from their New York haunts comes as a prize for winning a basketball tournament. The comedy-drama follows along formula lines and manages to turn up a good deal of laughs of the unsubtle and slapstick variety.

While vacationing at a ranch in California, the kids learn of a stolen car racket and all turn sleuths. After a series of adventures they uncover the culprits just in time to save the proprietress of the ranch, Chili Williams, from marrying one of the heavies, William Wright.

William Beaudine directed for producer Sam Baerwitz. Others in the cast are Emory Parnell, a police sergeant who serves as the kids' escort, and Vince Barnett, doing a portrait of muddlement. The screenplay is the joint product of Robert E. Kent, Robert A. McGowan and Eugene Conrad.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 12.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Shop Girls of Paris"

(Mage Films—French)

THE STORY of the rise of a Parisian department store, with the consequent extinction of smaller competitors, is told in this importation from France. Along with the store's growth, told in terms of human interest, the film unfolds the drama of the daily tribulations of the shop girls. Taken from the novel by Emile Zola, the picture often catches some of the biting humor of the old master. Good acting, some impressive settings and isolated touches of eloquence make it an especially worthy item for "art theatres."

The film concludes in storybook fashion, as the store owner marries one of the humble shop girls and then institutes many social reforms for the employes. As the kind-hearted yet irascible little shopkeeper. Michel Simon turns in an outstanding performance. Others in the cast are Albert Prejean and Blanchette Brunoy. Andre Cayatte directed. The English sub-titles are provided.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification.

M. H.

British Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

tween himself and the MPA directors.

Asked about possible U. S. retaliation in the event the British import taxation is imposed, Johnston said: "I have always advocated a freer exchange of goods between countries, but if England adopts this measure the idea will spread among certain other countries like a prairie-fire and U. S. (retaliatory) action is inevitable."

Johnston said he filed a "brief" with Dalton in London asserting that the *ad valorem* duties would be in legal violation of the 1946 British-U. S. agreement on double taxation, and also the reciprocal trade agreement of 1938. The brief also noted, he said, that the measure would violate the "spirit" of the terms of the U. S. loan to Britain and the Geneva conference.

He added that the brief is not being "pressed," since he feels, he said, that the matter should be handled on a "friendly basis."

He said that the counter proposals taken up yesterday at the MPA board meeting were not "unsuitable, but perhaps not adaptable."

He said adoption of the British tax program would "hurt Britain itself in the long run." He explained that he believes the British film industry is capable of taking a top role as a gatherer of currency for that country, whereas the U. S. has numerous industries which prosper in international trade.

Johnston said he assumes the British Government will wait a week or 10 days before it takes action on the tax imposition.

He observed that the "British problems of conserving dollars are of a temporary nature" and would be ironed out as the Marshall Plan is put into effect. The Secretary of State's ideas on the rehabilitation of Europe again were lauded by Johnston.

The MPA chief reported that in 1946 U. S. films in Britain grossed 110,000,000 pounds in distributor rentals ($444,000,000), and that remittances to this country amounted to a little less than 17,000,000 pounds ($68,000,000). He said that 50,000,000 pounds ($200,000,000) went for taxes and the balance for operating expenses over there.

He said that British product here drew $3,000,000 in rentals in 1946 and of this $1,000,000 was remitted to England.

He said that this year British product in the U. S. will draw well over his earlier estimate of $10,000,000 in rentals. He put distribution costs at 25 per cent and said the remaining 75 per cent would be remitted to England, or could be partly invested here, this being a matter for the British producer to decide.

Johnston repeated another prediction, that British films may gross up to $25,000,000 in rentals in the U. S. in 1948.

Britain Withdraws Another $300 Million from U. S. Loan

WASHINGTON, July 30.—The British have taken another deep bite into their fast-dwindling $3,750,000,000 U. S. loan with a $300,000,000 withdrawal, the Treasury announced today. This brings total withdrawals this month to $700,000,000, more than twice as much as was withdrawn in any previous month, leaving the British only $1,000,000,000. At the current rate, the loan will be consumed well before the end of the year, lasting only half as long as the loan was originally intended.

Rank Feted in London

LONDON, July 30.—Executives of the J. Arthur Rank Organization welcomed Rank at a private dinner at the Dorchester, on the latter's return from the United States.

Marshall Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

a "series" of such pictures would be made designed to depict the facts surrounding the near-chaotic economic conditions in Europe and that these films would promote support of Marshall's plan. To this he added that the pictures will be "probably shorts or trailers."

Last Wednesday, in London, Johnston told a press meeting that the American film industry will endeavor to make films designed to bring home the facts (concerning the Marshall plan) not only to Americans but to peoples generally throughout the world," according to cable dispatches.

When the matter was brought up yesterday, Johnston said simply that the subject "had been discussed" at the MPA meeting. But there was no elaboration of this. Probed further on his announcement of last Friday concerning the production project, he said he might have left out a phrase, a vital one apparently, or that there might have been some misinterpretation of his remarks.

The story now is, according to Johnston, that "we might make a picture, on the Marshall situation, particularly if this is what Marshall wants. There were no other questions from the group of about 40 reporters summoned and so the meeting was brought to a close.

However, a distribution executive who attended the MPA board meeting said upon further investigation late in the day that Johnston proposed the production of a two-reeler on the Marshall plan, with the film to have an editorial twist recommending support of it.

This was approved by the MPA board, it was said, and the matter was placed in the hands of "the studio group," presumably meaning the Association of M. P. Producers.

The executive said further that Johnston spoke generally of "a film every once in a while" designed to aid other State Department policies.

RCA Nets $8,825,912 In First Half of '47

Net income of Radio Corp. of America and its subsidiaries, including RCA Photophone, NBC and others, after all charges and taxes, was $8,825,912 for the first six months of 1947, compared with $5,666,299 in 1946, it was disclosed here yesterday by David Sarnoff, president and chairman of the board.

Total gross income of $153,333,872, for the first half of 1947, compared with $101,310,085 in the same period in 1946.

After payment of preferred dividends, net earnings applicable to the common stock for the first six months of 1947 were 52.2 cents per share, compared with 29.5 cents per share in the first half of 1946.

Sues 'U' Heads on Stock Transactions

Universal minority stockholder Bertha T. Aine yesterday filed suit in U. S. District Court, here, against company directors for an accounting on certain stock transactions.

Miss Aine alleges that some company officials made over $1,000,000 on the exercise of a stock option obtained prior to 1945. A similar suit was filed last June by another Universal stockholder, Stephen Truncale.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Desert wind visited Los Angeles over the weekend, sending the mercury up—at the expense of box-offices in general. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" made a showing under conditions which made house average business look good. Estimated eceipts for the week ended July 30:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-0c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Av-rage: $5,900)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-5c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Av-rage: $7,200)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-0c-85c-$1.00 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. Average: $9,600)

BRUTE FORCE .(U-I)—STUDIO (880) 50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. Average: $6,100)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) — UNITED ART-STS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $10.500. (Average: $15,800)

COPACABANA (UA-Coslow) — MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,-0)

COPACABANA (UA-Coslow) — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $14,200)

COPACABANA (UA-Coslow) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,400)

COPACABANA (UA-Coslow) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,-0)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,100)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—FOX-WIL-HIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,300)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $24.000. (Average: $22,600)

WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) 50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Av-rage: $11,500)

WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-1.00). Gross: $19,500. Average: $18,200)

WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 20th-Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY 20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—LOEW'S STATE (2,-0) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $29,000. Average: $28,600)

WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-1.00). Gross: $12.000. (Average: $11,500)

WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 20th-Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY 20th-Fox-Wurtzel) — UPTOWN (1,716) 50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,500. (Aver-ge: $13.200)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and BIG TOWN (Para.) — PARAMOUNT Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $26,600)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-0c-80c-$1.00)* 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. Average: $16.100)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15.000. (Average: $18,200)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,500)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) 2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: 13.500. (Average: $14.900)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) and GREEN FOR DANGER (E-L-Rank)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,100)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) and GREEN FOR DANGER (E-L Rank)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. Average: $6.800)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) and GREEN FOR DANGER (E-L Rank)—OPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,800)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) and GREEN FOR DANGER (E-L Rank)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8.000. (Average: $10,000)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) Gross: $13,500. (Average: $19,800)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $20,800)

DENVER

The continued heat wave had its effect on the box-office. Estimated receipts for the week ending July 31:

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I) and THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After a week at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)

HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) and ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT (Col.) — ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) day and date with the Paramount. Gross: $3.000. (Average: $2,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) day and date with the Esquire. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)

POSSESSED (WB) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day and date with the Webber. Gross: $15.000. (Average: $14,000)

POSSESSED (WB) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) day and date with the Denver. Gross: $3.000. (Average: $2.000)

WELLDIGGER'S DAUGHTER (Siritzky-Int'l)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). Gross: $2.500. (Average: $3,000)

WYOMING (Rep.) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Despite extremely hot weather some Loop films enjoyed business that topped that of recent weeks. Estimated grosses for the week ending July 31:

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,400)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists-Mono.) — STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) —LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $5.000. (Average: $5,600)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,500)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $14,500)

TIME OUT OF MIND (U-I)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $4.000. (Average: $7,300)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4.000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

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'Hucksters' Prints Carry Ad of 'GWTW'

"Would you like this theatre to show 'Gone With the Wind?' If so, write a letter to that effect to the theatre's management, or sign the petition form available in the lobby." An advertisement clip carrying a message in these terms and running for about a minute-and-a-half has been tacked on by M-G-M to the end of the final reel of all prints of "The Hucksters," which, like "GWTW," stars Clark Gable.

This method of selling the re-release of "GWTW" is bringing results, according to M-G-M circuit sales manager Eddie Aaron. Many theatres, he says, have reported as many as 15 pages of petitions signed thus far.

Kirsch Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

mittee, that body did not want to take action binding the entire association.

The committee recommended the plan to the Allied board "in principle for adoption and use by those Allied regional associations that choose to use it," Myers said. Allied's 17-man board is expected to meet late in August with regard to the proposed membership campaign, he reported, adding that the Caravan committee would "carry on its work as before."

In reporting that steps have been taken to finance the Caravan committee's work, Myers also revealed that its authority and duties have been expanded.

Discussion of the proposed plan to secure additional sources of product was postponed, as was discussion of the questionnaires on competitive bidding sent out to Allied members. Myers explained that there had been no time in which to analyze the returns for presentation to the committee.

Allied Caravan Unit Opens 2-Day Phila. Meet Today

PHILADELPHIA, July 30.—Means of making the caravan more effective are among items on the agenda of the two-day meeting of the Allied Caravan Committee which opens tomorrow at Allied headquarters here.

Expected to attend are H. A. Cole of Texas, W. L. Ainsworth of Wisconsin, Julian Rembusch of Indiana, as well as Jack Kirsch, National Allied president; Abram Myers, national chairman, ex officio; Irving Dollinger, regional vice-president; Dora Samuelson, administrative assistant to the committee, and Sidney E. Samuelson, local president. No outsiders will be admitted to the meeting.

Exempt Canada Board

National Film Board of Canada has won dsmissal as a defendant in a copyright suit brought by Herman Axelbank in Federal Court, here against former receivers of the film, "Tsar to Lenin" and individuals and companies. Judge Alexander Holtzoff granted the dismissal. Axelbank, present receiver of the film, is seeking a total of $1.900 000 damages for alleged violation of a trust by the former receivers who, he claims, sold portions of the film without authorization of the courts.

US Approves 21 More Theatre Applicants

WASHINGTON, July 30.—The Office of the Housing Expediter has approved 21 more applications for theatre construction or repair and has denied 64 applications. Cost of the approved projects was put at $410,113, while the projects denied would have $2,474,093.

Since the new construction law went into effect, on July 1, the OHE has approved 82 theatre projects, costing $2,092,318, and denied 134 applications for work costing $5,707,505.

Egypt Seeks US Film Plants, Technical Aid

WASHINGTON, July 30. — Mustafa Bey Maher, director general of the Department of Industry in the Egyptian Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has discussed with U. S. Department of Commerce officials here the possibility of establishing branch plants of U. S. industry in Egypt and of obtaining U. S. technical and industrial assistance.

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'Teeth' for Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

ures are used for illustration it is agreed they "shall not be represented in such manner as to be offensive or contrary to good taste or morals."

In outlining the history of the change, Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and exploitation of 20th Century - Fox who is also chairman of the Advertising Advisory Council and of the Eastern Public Information Committee, declared it had been in progress for months. While not publicly stated, it is, nevertheless, common trade knowledge that the move was projected into focus as a result of the recently defeated New York bill which contemplated censorship of motion picture advertising. This legislation was introduced in Albany in the trail of what is generally believed to have been the furore created by advertising for "The Outlaw".

Chas. Schlaifer

Acts of a Few 'Mavericks'

Schlaifer, however, explained the plan developed out of the realization of the advertising and publicity executives of all major companies that the industry's name was being besmirched because of the acts of a few whom he described as "mavericks".

While only MPA member companies are bound by the code, the intention is to enlist the active cooperation of all elements in the industry—large and small theatre operators, non-member producers, sales forces, field men, advertising agencies and other groups which do not fall within the mandate of the code. This will be undertaken in the form of a public relations campaign within the industry and will include organized exhibitor associations regardless of national affiliation.

In conjunction with revision of the instrument, the MPA board reaffirmed its adherence to the code "by unqualified endorsement of the program to carry its observance to every branch of the industry." This program, the board added, "Will demonstrate anew the industry's militant and sincere purpose of making self-regulation effective in accordance with the democratic tradition." Further, it declared, "It will be noticed we stand against all official curbs upon freedom of decent expression."

Pressure for Legal Bars

"There has been no serious complaint until incidents beyond our control precipitated new demands for further legal restrictions. But a single deviation from the requirements of decency and good taste can imperil the entire industry," the board added.

"We decry obscenity and dishonesty in advertising and publicity material as much as any part of the public, and we submit cheerfully to the general statutes against obscenity to which offenders against public morals are subject. But we mean to stand free of undemocratic restraints and propose to carry the doctrine of self-responsibility to every segment, every individual and to the outermost periphery of our art.

"The public must have no cause for resentment at having been duped or offended."

Film Advertising Code: The New One and the Old

(*Continued from page* 1)

June 6, 1930	July 30, 1947
motion pictures should take steps to emphasize their kindred purposes, and to make certain that motion picture advertising shall reflect the same high ideals and aims which inspired the new code for production. Therefore, to make our maximum contribution to the progress of the motion picture medium, help it fulfill its obligation and develop its complete community value, the advertising men of the industry hereby subscribe to a Code for Motion Picture Advertising. The provisions of the Code shall apply to press books, newspaper advertising, trailers, outdoor display, novelty distribution and all other forms of motion picture exploitation. We urge all motion picture advertisers, whether affiliated with the undersigned or not, to adhere to these principles:	newspaper, *magazine and trade paper* advertising, *publicity material,* trailers, *posters, lobby displays and all other* outdoor displays, novelty distribution, *radio copy and every form* of motion picture exploitation. We urge all motion picture *producers, distributors and exhibitors, and their advertising agents,* whether affiliated with the undersigned or not, to adhere to these principles; *and, for ourselves, we pledge compliance with these principles without reservation.*

The Code

1. We subscribe to the Code of Business Ethics of the International Advertising Association, based on "truth, honesty and integrity."	1. We subscribe to a code of business ethics based upon truth, honesty and integrity. *All motion picture advertising shall* (*a*) *Conform to fact.* (*b*) *Scrupulously avoid all misrepresentation.*
2. Good taste shall be the guiding rule of motion picture advertising.	2. Good taste shall be the guiding rule of motion picture advertising.
3. Illustrations and text in advertising shall faithfully represent the pictures themselves.	3. Illustrations and text in advertising shall faithfully represent the pictures themselves.
4. No false or misleading statements shall be used directly, or implied by type arrangements or by distorted quotations.	4. No false or misleading statements shall be used directly, or implied by type arrangements or by distorted quotations.
5. No text or illustration shall ridicule or tend to ridicule, any religion or religious faith; no illustration of a character in clerical garb shall be shown in any but a respectful manner.	5. No text or illustration shall ridicule or tend to ridicule any *race,* religion or religious faith; no illustration of a character in clerical garb shall be shown in any but a respectful manner.
6. The history, institutions, and nationals of all countries shall be represented with fairness.	6. The history, institutions, and nationals of all countries shall be represented with fairness.
7. Profanity and vulgarity shall be avoided.	7. Profanity and vulgarity shall be avoided.
8. Pictorial and copy treatment of officers of the law shall not be of such nature as to undermine their authority.	8. Pictorial and copy treatment of officers of the law shall not be of such nature as to undermine their authority.
9. Specific details of crime, inciting imitation, shall not be used.	9. Specific details of crime, inciting imitation, shall not be used.
10. Motion picture advertisers shall bear in mind the provision of the Production Code that the use of liquor in American life shall be restricted to the necessities of characterization and plot.	10. Motion picture advertisers shall be *guided* by the provision of the Production Code that the use of liquor in American life shall be restricted to the necessities of characterization and plot.
11. Nudity with meretricious purpose and salacious postures, shall not be used.	11. Nudity with meretricious purpose and salacious postures shall not be used; *and clothed figures shall not be represented in such manner as to be offensive or contrary to good taste or morals.*
12. Court actions relating to censoring of pictures, or other censorship disputes, are not to be capitalized in advertising.	12. Court actions relating to censoring of pictures, or other censorship disputes, are not to be capitalized in advertising *or publicity.*

U W - d e Rochemont Will Begin in Sept.

Production will be started early in September by Louis de Rochemont Associates, Inc., on the first of the company's projected 86 two-reel 16mm. geographical color films which will bear the series title, "Your World and Mine." The series will be made exclusively for classroom use and will be distributed by United World, Universal-International 16mm. subsidiary.

Louis de Rochemont, president, also announced the following appointments: John J. Wingerter, former Time, Inc., executive, as vice-president and general manager; F. Bordon Mace, former U. S. Navy photographic officer, as executive assistant to the president; John A. Haeseler, former independent producer, as technical and educational consultant, and Victor Jurgens, former March of Time foreign film correspondent, as unit producer for the Far East, with headquarters in Bombay.

WB Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

over by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager.

The New York convention, which will be followed by a similar conference in Chicago August 4-6 for the Western division, marks the first convention in five years attended by Warner salesmen.

On the agenda for the meeting is an outline of coming product, topped by "Life With Father"; a discussion of the Warner newsreel; an outline of advertising and promotional plan for 1947-48; forum on current conditions, trends and outlook in various territories, and other topics.

Among the home office executives attending are: Harry M. Warner, Major Albert Warner, Samuel Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Harry M. Kalmine, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, I. F. Dolid, Norman H. Moray, Bernard R. Goodman, Ed Hinchy, Howard Levinson, Gilbert A. Golden, Harry Goldberg, Robert A. McGuire, Stanley W. Hatch, Larry Golob, William W. Brumberg, Charles Baily, Jacob Wilk, Albert S. Howson, Wolfe Cohen, A. C. Brauninger, James Allen, Ned Buddy.

District managers attending include: Ben Lefkowitz, Eastern; Robert Smeltzer, Mid-Atlantic; Charles Rich, Central; Haskell Masters, Canadian.

Branch managers include: Ray S. Smith, Albany; George W. Horan, Boston; Ed A. Catlin, Buffalo; Carl J. Goe, New Haven; Clarence Eiseman, New York; William G. Mansell, Philadelphia; Fred W. Beiersdorf, Washington; James S. Abrose, Cincinnati; Jerry M. Wechsler, Cleveland; Claude W. McKean, Indianapolis; F. D. Moore, Pittsburgh; Morris Saifer, Calgary; Grattan Kiely, Montreal; Micky Komar, St. John; Irvin Coval, Toronto; Earl H. Dalgleish, Vancouver; Frank Davis, Winnipeg.

Foundation Benefit

National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis will receive the net proceeds from the world premiere of "The Roosevelt Story," semi-documentary film, to be held on the evening of Thursday, Aug. 21, at the Globe Theatre, here. The benefit will be attended by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and United Nations and U. S. Government dignitaries.

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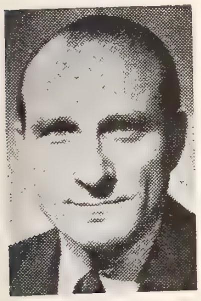
. 62. NO. 23 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1947 TEN CENTS

Names . . . in Today's News

HARRY MICHALSON, RKO short subject sales manager, will become president of RKO Pathe, Inc., according to Ned E. Depinet, vice-chairman of the board. Jay Bonafield, Pathe vice-president in charge of production, is promoted to vice-president and general manager of the East Coast RKO subsidiary, and Douglas Travers has been named production manager. Formal election of these new officers to fill vacancies created by resignations of Frederic Ullman, Jr., who has signed a contract as RKO producer under Dore Schary, and Walton C. Ament, who is joining Warner Pathe News, will take place at the next board meeting.


Harry Michalson

Ament Is WB-Pathe General Manager

Walton Ament has been named general manager of Warner Pathe News, Inc. Previously, he had been elected vice-president, when Norman Moray was elected president and James Allen was also named a vice-president. Newly elected is Samuel Carlisle, treasurer.

As previously stated, the Pathe News staff will continue to produce the newsreel for Warner with Alfred Butterfield, present editor of Pathe News; Harold Bonafield, managing editor, and J. D. Le Vien, news editor.

Weitman Is Chairman of Annual 'Night of Stars'

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, here, has accepted the chairmanship of the producing committee of the 14th annual "Night of Stars," which will be held at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, Nov. 17, it was announced by Nathan Straus, general chairman of the benefit.

Lancaster, Harold Hecht Form Producing Company

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—Burt Lancaster and Harold Hecht have formed their own producing company. Production of their initial picture, based on Gerald Butler's novel, "Kiss the Blood Off My Hands," will get under way in November. Release will be through Universal-International.

Warner Stays Flexible; 10 Releases Set

Warner will maintain its flexible releasing policy in 1947-48, but is now prepared to go with 10 releases headed by "Life With Father." Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, outlined these at the opening session of the company's convention at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday.

Ben Kalmenson

In the afternoon, Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager and president of Warner News, Inc., disclosed the company will have eight series of short subjects plus two

(Continued on page 6)

IATSE Operators To Strike Sept. 1

Approval of a strike, effective Sept. 1, affecting Broadway first-runs and the Skouras, Loew, and RKO circuits, has been voted by members of projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE. The action was taken at a midnight

(Continued on page 7)

Dividends Up $4,597,000

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Dividend payments paid by motion picture companies totaled $16,319,000 in the first five months of 1947, compared with $11,722,000 for the comparable 1946 period, according to the Department of Commerce.

This year's April payments totaled $4,461,000, almost double the $2,256,000 disbursed in April, 1946. May dividend payments showed a sharp drop this year, totaling only $188,000, compared with $1,074,000 last year. However, Commerce officials attributed this in part to the fact that RKO this year paid a dividend in April which last year it declared in May.

No Change in KRS Booking Methods

LONDON, July 31.—The Kinematograph Renters' Society decided against any revisions in their cooperative booking policy at a special meeting held here today.

Earlier this year, British exhibitors launched a campaign to force a revision of existing film rental practices, whereupon the KRS entered into discussions with the British Board of Trade on the question of cooperative booking. The exhibitors had termed an unfair trading practice KRS's policy that none of its members shall

(Continued on page 7)

Next Congress Session Important to Industry

Producers Offer to Continue 11.7% Boost

Hollywood, July 31.—Continuation of the 11.7 per cent cost-of-living increase granted all unions on Jan. 1 this year is being offered by producers in current meetings with unions on a year's extension of present contracts before Aug. 22. On this date, the Taft-Hartley provision against the closed shop becomes effective.

The labor committee of the Association of M.P. Producers conferred today with the Screen Directors and the Screen Extras Guilds.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—From all indications, the next session of Congress will be an important one for the film industry, according to legislative circles here, for then will be made the decision on the tax structure, including the admission tax.

Though pressures have been strong to reduce the theatre tax and though many key figures have promised such relief, there is powerful pressure to maintain existing excise levels, and the fight will be close.

Bills pigeonholed in committee in the 80th session of Congress, such as the White bill and minimum wage legislation, will come up again in 1948, and the industry also has promised a fight on sections of the Inter-American Copyright Convention, which President Truman sent to Con-

(Continued on page 7)

Deliberate 'Ad Valorem' Tax Alternatives

Concessions to U.K. Held Necessary to Agreement

Individual company meetings began here yesterday as top executives vigorously applied themselves to the admittedly "dynamite-laden" task of putting down in black-and-white an idea for an acceptable alternate to Britain's proposed *ad valorem* tax measure. It was frankly stated in many quarters that "acceptable" means concessions.

While all company heads uniformly agree that imposition of taxation on the box-office value of prints shipped to England would have severe consequences, another joint meeting with Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has yet to be scheduled.

Communication of ideas on the matter is by way of telephone for the most

(Continued on page 7)

Set NJ Federation Fate in September

Decision as to whether the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners will remain as a permanent organization representing the mass of the state's exhibitors in combatting adverse admission tax legislation, will be made at a meeting of the exhibi-

(Continued on page 7)

8 Companies Renew French Export Pact

The seven member companies of the Motion Picture Association and United Artists have extended for another year their voluntary agreement limiting themselves to a total export of

(Continued on page 7)

BULLETIN

Hollywood, 3 A.M. August 1.—Gradwell Sears general sales manager of United Artists has been offered the presidency of the company and 'probably' will accept it. Sears late tonight said the offer had been made to him directly by Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin.

Personal Mention

THOMAS J. CONNORS left New York yesterday for Hollywood, and is due back in two weeks.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram-Allied Artists president, and MRS. BROIDY, NORTON V. RITCHEY, head of Monogram International; ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR., M-G-M producer, and MRS. HORNBLOW; WILLIAM S. PALEY, Columbia Broadcasting System board chairman; CARY GRANT, BEATRICE LILLIE and JACK BUCHANAN are among passengers who will sail for England today on the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

EVELYN LEE JONES, Donahue and Coe radio executive, was in Washington yesterday from New York to attend the induction of her uncle, PHILIP B. PERLMAN, as Solicitor General of the U. S.

•

DAVID JONES, advertising-publicity director for RKO in the United Kingdom; JOHN NATHAN, Paramount general manager for Europe, and MRS. NATHAN sailed for Europe yesterday on the *SS Mauretania.*

•

AMERICO ROSENBERGER, Paramount International branch manager for Cuba, will return to his headquarters in Havana today after a month's stay here.

•

THOMAS W. BALDRIDGE, M-G-M promotion representative for the Middle Atlantic states, and DOROTHY DE GRANGE, both of Winchester, Va., will be married on Aug. 9.

•

MAURICE N. WOLF, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations director, returned to Boston yesterday after home office talks.

•

JOSEPH MOSKOWITZ, vice-president and Eastern studio representative for 20th-Fox, returned to his desk yesterday from Coast conferences.

•

BELLE MEYER, secretary to SAM L. SEIDELMAN, Eagle-Lion's foreign manager, is vacationing at Livingston Manor, N. Y.

•

LEONARD SPIGELGASS, Paramount writer, will head for the Coast today after arriving here from England on the *Queen Elizabeth* this week.

•

JOHN P. BYRNE, M-G-M Eastern sales manager, is due back here Monday from Buffalo.

•

LEONARD WHITE, 20th Century-Fox home office publicist, will fly to Hollywood tonight for a 10-day stay.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's short subjects sales, is due back here tomorrow from Atlanta.

BFPA Reelects Rank

LONDON, July 31.—J. Arthur Rank was reelected president of the British Film Producers Association for a sixth consecutive year at the annual meeting here today.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

"SEE page 1 of the New York *Times* and then draw your own conclusions," a leading executive pointedly remarked yesterday. He was referring to the extremely delicate British situation which the American industry unhappily is trying to solve between now and adjournment of Parliament, less than 10 days off.

The *Times* story, which attracted wide attention in New York, was a London dispatch reporting the solid support of Labor members of Parliament for Prime Minister Atlee's new program of drastic slashes in Britain's overseas dollar expenditures. The program is another development in the desperate, if not despairing, effort to hold her vanishing economy in check.

The plan, which probably will be announced in the House of Commons next Wednesday, reportedly will be "extremely severe and may even include food." The cable further states flatly: "It is regarded here as almost certain that United States films will be affected."

■

What this leading executive was saying, consequently, becomes clear enough. By indirection, which was never very indirect at that, he was giving vent to his conviction that nothing can stop a body blow to American films in England. Others whose places range high in the business are of the same frame of mind.

The nature of that body-blow, now taken generally for granted, is another matter. Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton currently is fully empowered to act as he may determine on the much-discussed *ad valorem* tax plan. Principal motion picture figures in Britain are unalterably opposed because they recognize the danger of throttling their production industry virtually at its American birth. From their point of view, a return to the formula of frozen funds—frozen until the situation indicates they may be unfrozen—is less explosive. From the American point of view, this would be explosive enough to precipitate a reshuffling of production plans in a downward spiral.

The downward direction could bring about [1] still fewer pictures made at approximately the negative cost level existing today, [2] the same numerical output at a lowered cost or [3] fewer pictures costing less. The latter two contingencies would be fraught with great obstacles operationally and obviously would be undesirable from a quality approach.

■

At his press interview late Wednesday afternoon, Eric Johnston's engaging smile never sought to hide the gravity of the state of affairs. While the Labor Government has not been asked for a time limitation on an alternative to the Dalton plan, Johnston was frank to state there must be an acceptable substitute within 10 days or no substitute at all.

Because the decision confronting the majors is so major, speed is best made slowly in a case like this. And they know it. The company presidents, moreover, are not likely to cast a die without full consultation with, and the approval of, their directorates. Time, therefore and again, is of the essence.

■

Should the Dalton proposal become British policy, resentment here will mushroom into a form of unofficial retaliation in all probability. English films, struggling for recognition and in sore need of all the friends they can muster, would experience a damaging setback.

Should a return to some form of frozen funds become British policy at Downing Street's own implementation, or at the suggestion of the American industry, the relationship could be preserved, but the cheering squad for British films would not be heard from quite so often.

Should Britain determine to restrict the number of American imports, a full-scale fight probably will blossom in the open.

■

All that these paragraphs attempt to convey is a boildown of assorted approaches to the unsolved British problem. There is no clear answer yet because it does not exist. The one certainty in a serious and complex situation is the inevitability facing the American industry. This inevitability is a constriction of its business in Britain, leading to less reverse dollar remittances which, in turn, will affect the course of production in Hollywood.

That's where the American exhibitor comes in.

UA 'Mr. Ace' Suit

United Artists yesterday sought dismissal of infringement suit brought in Federal Court, here, by Robert Freund in connection with the film "Mr. Ace." "Portrait of a Youth," the property allegedly infringed in the making of the picture, is in the public domain, UA contended.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
ESTHER WILLIAMS
RICARDO MONTALBAN
'FIESTA'
M-G-M's Technicolor Musical
IN PERSON
DEAN MARTIN & JERRY LEWIS
JOHNNY BURKE
HERMAN CHITTISON
Extra!
GRACIE BARRIE

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9.30 A. M.
RIVOLI
B'WAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
37TH WEEK!
COOL
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE"
in TECHNICOLOR
Starring
BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM" ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"
with MARK STEVENS · JUNE HAVER
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE IN PERSON!
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Ohio ITO Urged To Pass On Tax

COLUMBUS, O., July 31.—Ohio exhibitors are urged to persuade their city officials that any municipal admissions taxes enacted be made a mandatory "pass-on" tax to the patron, in a bulletin from P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.

"Once a municipality enacts a local admissions tax," the bulletin says, "the chances are all in favor that it will remain forever, with the added danger of an increase in rate. For the latter reason we should, from the beginning, establish these municipal taxes as a consumer's tax."

"It is not unfair for us to ask that the tax on the sale of our commodity—entertainment—be subjected to the same treatment as the sales tax on any merchandise or rental under the Ohio sales tax law."

If cities can be persuaded to limit the tax to three per cent, Wood said, the mandatory pass-on tax would be bracketed as follows:

Less than 11 cents	No tax
11 to 40 cents	1 cent
41 to 70 cents	2 cents
71 cents to $1	3 cents
Over $1	Tax on such fraction according to table

"In making the above suggestion, we fully realize it would be necessary for most theatres to charge prices that would compel them to deal in pennies, but this is nothing new to our patrons who, since 1935, have been paying out and receiving pennies under the Ohio sales tax."

Air Freight Rate Cuts Begin Today

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Reductions averaging 25 per cent in air freight rates will go into effect tomorrow. The film industry makes extensive use of air freight.

The Civil Aeronautics Board today took no action to suspend the new tariff filed by 19 domestic airlines, thus putting the new rates automatically in effect. Later this week the board will probably dismiss protests against the new schedule entered by certain air freight forwarder associations, which contended that the proposed rates favored small shippers at the expense of plane-load shippers.

Under the new schedule, the average rate drops from 26.5 cents per ton mile, to 20 cents.

Circuit Survey Cites Junior Gross of 18%

MINNEAPOLIS, July 31.—Youngsters between the ages of 12 and 18 pay from 15 to 18 per cent of the box-office gross in the St. Paul and Minneapolis theatres of Minnesota Amusement Co., it is revealed in a survey of the first month of lowered junior prices made by Charles Winchell, assistant to circuit president Harry French.

This percentage will slant upward when the young people return from summer vacations, Winchell believes, terming the setting of junior prices in the Twin Cities "one of the most important moves for the benefit of motion pictures and the public" in many years.

Drive Against Films Glorifying Crime

Columbus, July 31.—Police in Ohio cities will crack down on films and radio programs which "glorify crime and degrade police officers" as part of a program designed to combat juvenile delinquency, according to Capt. William Murphy of the Columbus police department, state secretary of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Murphy said members of the FOP will follow resolutions adopted at its recent convention in Dayton. The resolutions, adopted unanimously, were presented by Lorain Lodge No. 3.

RKO Pathe Plans To Expand Shorts

With the sale of Pathe News to Warner, RKO Pathe, Inc. will concentrate on production of "This Is America," sportscopes and "Flicker Flashbacks," operation of the RKO Pathe studios and an increased volume of commercial film production.

In addition to the present series, plans are under way for the addition of at least two new series involving 19 additional reels of short product.

Jay Bonafield will personally produce the "This Is America" series; Phil Reisman, Jr. will continue as editorial supervisor and Richard Fleischer will produce the "Flicker Flashbacks" as heretofore. Harold Lewis continues as manager of the Pathe Studios and Phillips B. Nichols as manager of the commercial department.

Frederic Ullman, Jr., who has resigned as president of RKO Pathe, Inc., to become an RKO producer in Hollywood, leaves for the coast Aug. 9. His first picture is tentatively "The Window."

End of Film Division 'Slap' to Industry

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Congressional axing of the film division of the Library of Congress was "definitely a slap in the face to the motion picture industry," W. Gayle Starnes of the motion picture division avers.

It meant, he told a meeting of the Washington Film Council, that the preservation of films "was not on a par with the preservation of books and periodicals."

John G. Bradley, head of the division, told the group that the Library of Congress will work out by late September concrete suggestions for the restoration of the film division to be presented to Congress.

MPA Kansas City Group

KANSAS CITY, July 31.—A local organization is being established for the community service department of the Motion Picture Association, with Mrs. Thomas B. Link appointed chairman. Mrs. John Neill, of the Young Matrons, has been named vice-chairman. Mrs. Link is general chairman of motion pictures of Parent Teachers Association of Kansas City.

Utah Owners May Join the PCCITO

SALT LAKE CITY, July 31.—A group of Utah exhibitors has organized a committee to invite the board of trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners to hold a meeting in Salt Lake City in August to explain to Utahns the aims and workings of the PCCITO and to tell what it has to offer independent exhibitors. The Utah committee consists of Jay Christensen and Dan Kostopulos of Salt Lake City, John Rugar of Park City, Harold Chesler of Bingham, and Julian Bills of Bountiful. They addressed their wire to Robert Poole, secretary of the PCCITO, in Los Angeles.

The Salt Lake meeting would be held Aug. 19-21, according to tentative plans. The Utahns also sent invitations to Idaho exhibitors who are not members of the PCCITO and to Montana operators, who joined the PCCITO only this year, to attend the Salt Lake City meeting.

Prior to now, Utah, Idaho and Montana have been together in the Intermountain Theatres Association, with each state having its separate organization. Montana pulled out of the Intermountain last spring and left Utah and Southern Idaho in Intermountain alone, and it is felt that the exhibitors of those two states also should join a strong theatre group.

State Dep't's Film Division Slashed

WASHINGTON, July 31.—Congressional budget cuts have forced the State Department to curtail its international motion picture division more severely than any other section of the overseas information program, assistant secretary of state William Benton told a press conference today.

Benton said he had been forced by the cut to consolidate IMPD and the press and publications division. He told reporters IMPD would reduce the number of languages in which films were dubbed and would have no money for the production of new films during the coming year. It will, however, be able to finish films now in production.

According to Herbert T. Edwards, acting chief of IMPD, the consolidation of the film unit and the press and publications division will pertain mainly to administrative problems.

In answering questions about the possibility of his resigning from the State Department, Benton said he would stay "as long as I am useful."

He also announced the Office of Information and Culture would now be named the Office of Information and Educational Exchange as it is called in the Mundt bill.

Eight More Pictures Get Legion Ratings

Six of eight more features reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-1; they are: "Code of the Saddle" and "Kilroy Was Here," both Monogram; "Her Husband's Affairs" and "Riders of the Lone Star," both Columbia; "The Unfinished Dance," M-G-M, and "Wyoming," Republic.

Placed in Class A-II were: "Second Chance," 20th Century-Fox, and "Something in the Wind," Universal-International.

May Break German Plan Over Weekend

Washington, July 31.—The long-awaited War Department statement on the German film program will be made public over the weekend, a Department spokesman promised today. The statement will be based on a suggested release forwarded from Gen. Clay in Berlin, and publication will be made simultaneously here and in Berlin.

UK Production for Allied Artists Pends

Year-long negotiations which have been conducted by Allied Artists and Monogram for the acquisition of production facilities in England are expected to be finalized in London shortly by Steve Broidy, the companies' president, who will leave New York on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* today for an eight-week business tour of Europe. Mrs. Broidy and Monogram-International president Norton V. Ritchey will accompany Broidy.

Broidy said yesterday that his companies own at least two story properties which are suited for production in England: "The Highwayman" and "The Maze." He said that in addition to closing the expected deal for studio space in England, he hopes to make arrangements also for producing a picture in Rome. Since the Italian lira has been frozen, Broidy said, producing in Rome should be a particularly favorable venture at this time.

Also on the agenda of Broidy and Ritchey while they are abroad is the setting up of a number of distribution deals.

Hartley to Coast For Labor Hearing

WASHINGTON, July 31.—House Labor Committee Chairman Hartley left here today for the West Coast, where he will participate in the hearings which will open Aug. 4 on the Hollywood labor situation.

Hartley said 91 witnesses had been subpoenaed to testify on all phases of the situation, including the jurisdictional strike, the American Federation of Musicians studio television contracts, and James C. Petrillo's control of FM broadcasting.

Subcommittee chairman Kearns and counsel Irving McCann are already on the Coast.

Commonwealth to Meet

KANSAS CITY, July 31.—Clarence A. Schultz, president of Commonwealth Theatres, has set dates of the annual fall meeting, Sept. 16-17, to be held at the Hotel Phillips. Results of the "King of the Sun" contest—a traditional summer event, this year, May 4-Aug. 16, will be announced, and awards made on Sept. 16.

Cancel Republic Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of Republic here was cancelled yesterday because of lack of a quorum. The next meeting will take place on Aug. 28.

“THIS ONE IS RED MEAT! ITS TE

EXCITING PICTURE WRITTEN W

KISS

Starring

VICTOR MATURE · BRIAN

with RICHARD WIDMARK · TAYLOR H

Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY

Screen Play by Ben Hecht and Charles Le

Produced with the same stunning impact and straight-from-life-greatness as

MPO IS TERRIFIC! A GRIPPING AND

H A MACHINE GUN!" —*WALTER WINCHELL*

OF DEATH

DONLEVY · COLEEN GRAY

MES · HOWARD SMITH · KARL MALDEN

Produced by FRED KOHLMAR

er · Based on a Story by Eleazar Lipsky

he House on 92nd Street," "13 Rue Madeleine" and "Boomerang!"

20th CENTURY-FOX

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ST. LOUIS

The heat soared to high temperatures. "Duel in the Sun" was registering strong, and "Dear Ruth" was in its seventh week. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 30:

DEAR RUTH (Para) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). On a moveover from two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-75c: $8,500)

EGG AND I (U-I)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c) 2nd week on a moveover from three weeks at Ambassador. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,500)

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,500)

POSSESSED (WB) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (PRC)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from the Ambassador. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,500)

INDIANAPOLIS

Grosses are uniformly modest. Variable weather, including a Sunday afternoon storm, has been a factor. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 29-30:

BLACK GOLD (Allied Artists-Mono.) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and SINGING IN THE CORN (Col.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,000)

WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c). With stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics) and COME AND GET IT (Film Classics)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,500)

OMAHA

Theatre business among first-runs was generally good. The hottest weather of the year gripped Omaha. Estimated receipts for the week ended July 29:

DESTRY RIDES AGAIN (U-I) and WHEN THE DALTONS RODE (U-I)—(2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,200. (Average: $8,500)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $11,100. (Average: $10,600)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $10,700. (Average: $9,300)

POSSESSED (WB) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—RKO - BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c). Gross: $9,300. (Average: $6,600)

KANSAS CITY

The weather continued hot. Registering very strong was "Welcome Stranger." Estimated receipts for the week ended July 31:

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

I STOLE A MILLION (U-I Reissue) and ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,750)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,000)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c - 65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (formerly the Newman)—(1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $11,000)

Reviews

"Ghost Town Renegades"

(Producers Releasing Corp.)

AL (LASH) LA RUE and Al (Fuzzy) St. John again join forces to rid the frontier of predatory, trigger-happy desperadoes, in another standard "horse opera." Jerry Thomas produced, Ray Taylor directed with full emphasis on action, and Patricia Harper is credited with the screenplay. Jennifer Holt, the heroine, lends the right amount of sweet femininity to the rugged atmosphere created by substantial gun-fighting, hard riding and other outdoor action elements.

Villains Jack Ingram, Terry Frost, Steve Clark and Lane Bradford make a practice of killing off claimants of valuable gold-mining property in a rundown ghost town as each arrives in the area to prove his right to the land. One victim is Miss Holt's father, but when she herself arrives, La Rue and "Fuzzy" are on hand to save her from a similar fate and eliminate the heavies through sharp thinking and straight shooting. During the course of the proceedings "Fuzzy" frequently monopolizes the screen with some rather overdrawn slap-stick.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 26.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"We Lived Through Buchenwald"

(Belnapor-Mage Films)

THE inhuman tortures inflicted by the Nazis at their infamous Buchenwald prison camp of World War II in itself suggests a questionable subject for the present-day market here. Apart from the subject matter, this Belgian-made picture has counts against it in sketchy continuity, sub-standard lighting and photography and glaring flaws in dubbing, all of which overshadow dramatic values.

Production inadequacies make it difficult to evaluate the performances in the picture, produced by the National Belgian Society of Motion Picture Production (Belnapor) and distributed here by Mage Films.

Running time, 80 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

Warner Stays

(*Continued from page* 1)

issues weekly of Warner Pathe News. The shorts break down into 78 one-reelers and eight two-reelers.

"Life With Father" will be sold as a special at the outset and enter general release at a later, unspecified date. World premiere, slated for Skowhegan, Me., Aug. 4, will be followed the next day with a Broadway opening at the Warner, formerly the Hollywood, theatre. Six additional dates are set for the rest of August to be followed by 28 more in September. An additional 150 runs are set to follow in late September and early October.

'Extensive' Promotional Drives

Each run will be accompanied by an extensive promotional campaign, bulwarked by an overall national campaign, details of which will be outlined at today's convention session by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity.

Initial release of the season will be "Deep Valley," starring Ida Lupino, Dane Clark and Wayne Morris, on Sept. 1. Later that month, "Night Unto Night," starring Ronald Reagan and Viveca Lindfors, will be released. Others, not specified as to date, will include "Dark Passage," starring Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall; "The Unsuspected," a Michael Curtiz Prod. with Joan Caulfield and Claude Rains; "Escape Me Never," with Errol Flynn, Miss Lupino, Eleanor Parker and Gig Young; "My Wild Irish Rose," with Dennis Morgan; "Wallflower," with Joyce Reynolds, Robert Hutton, Janis Paige and Edward Arnold; "Ever the Beginning," United States Pictures, with Lilli Palmer and Sam Wanamaker; "Voice of the Turtle" with Reagan, Miss Parker, Eve Arden, Wayne Morris and Kent Smith.

Kalmenson, in divulging the flexible program, declared it "can be adapted to any changes in conditions."

The short subject program includes eight "Technicolor Specials," each in two reels.

The one-reel series follow:

Six "Technicolor Adventure Specials."

Six "Memories of Melody Lane." This is a new series.

13 "Sports Parade in Technicolor."

Eight "Melody Master Bands."

Six "Joe McDoakes Comedies."

13 "Blue Ribbon Technicolor Cartoons."

26 "Merrie Melodies" and "Looney Tunes" in Technicolor.

"Now, more than ever, is the time for exhibitors to realize and carry out their full responsibility to Hollywood so that the gains made by our industry over the past several years can be maintained," declared Kalmenson.

Industry on 'Sound Basis'

"From an economic standpoint, the industry is on a sound basis and can weather any changes in conditions just as it has weathered many storms in the past. The exhibitor, in particular, is better off now than ever before, thanks largely to the fact that pictures today are coming to him more intensively pre-sold and of better quality than at any time in the past.

"In order for the exhibitor to assure himself that he will continue to enjoy these favorable conditions—and to make it possible for Hollywood to keep supplying him with the kind of product that will maintain the increased public interest in his boxoffice—he must recognize that he has a personal obligation to cooperate with Hollywood."

To give exhibitors "every possible" assistance along the lines of mutual cooperation between the production and exhibition ends, Kalmenson instructed the sales force to expand and intensify their personal contact activities with all their accounts. He told the men they must go in for a thorough job of education among exhibitors, studying the personal problems of individual theatre operators more closely than ever and giving them every assistance at their command. In case of any extremely difficult situations, Kalmenson said the men in the field could call upon the home office for aid.

Other speakers at the first day's session included Blumenstock and Moray. Other executives of the newsreel company introduced at the meeting were Walton C. Ament, who made a brief talk; Alfred Butterfield, and James Allen.

Today principal speakers will be Harry M. Warner, president, and Major Albert Warner, vice-president.

E-L Latin American Invasion in Offing

Eagle-Lion's invasion of the Latin-American market through a series of offices in all countries south of the border will become an accomplished fact during a four-month tour on which foreign manager Sam L. Seidelman will embark next week. This was disclosed here yesterday by Sei[illegible]an at a luncheon given in his ho[illegible] by E-L. Company executives and representatives of Pathe Industries, parent company; Edward Small Productions, Pictorial Films and the trade press attended.

Seidelman will open the Mexico City office on Aug. 25. Offices will follow in Cuba, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Colombia, Venezuela, Puerto Rico and Panama. The company has set aside an initial outlay of $300,000 for this purpose. Managers have been selected for all of the branches.

In addition to American-made Eagle-Lion product, the Latin-American branches will serve as outlets for E-L-sponsored J. Arthur Rank films, Edward Small reissues, and product of Pictorial (16mm. E-L affiliate). E-L also has acquired for release in Latin-America "Shoe Shine," Italian production, and Rank productions wherein the English accents are too strong for American consumption but which are held to be suitable for Latin-American release in dubbed form. First such film slated for general release is "Bedelia." "Adventures of Casanova," made in Mexico, will have its world premiere in Mexico City, Seidelman said.

Sign Morgan for Film

Henry Morgan has been signed to play the lead in Ring Lardner's "So This Is New York," for which he will receive $100,000, plus a percentage of the picture's profits, it has been announced by Stanley Kramer, head of Screen Plays, Inc., which will make the picture on the Enterprise Coast lot. A budget of $1,250,000 has been set for the film, which will be the first of a seven-picture program.

Short Subject

"Turkey's 100 Million"

(*March of Time—20th Century-Fox*)

The U. S. Government has allotted $100,000,000 for investment in far-distant Turkey. For those Americans who are wondering why we propose to [illegible]k our noses" into that corner of [illegible] world, the answers are supplied in this graphic, concise pictorial analysis of the extent to which world peace is embodied in Turkey's future.

Cameras are focused at the outset on Washington State Department concern with Turkish problems, and then swing to that half-exotic, half-Westernized country which is faced with two important objectives: modernization of her industry and maintenance of a strong army against outside pressure. The outside pressure, of course, stems from the Kremlin. Maps, charts and lucid commentary are included to point out the importance of the U. S. loan. Running time, 18½ minutes.

Pittsburgh Base for 'Unconquered' Drive

PITTSBURGH, July 31.—Phil Koury, Paramount publicist in charge of Cecil B. DeMille productions, and Norman Siegel, in charge of special events at the Paramount studio, arrived today from Hollywood to establish campaign headquarters in the William Penn Hotel here for "Unconquered," Technicolor feature starring Gary Cooper and Paulette Goddard.

"Unconquered" will have its American premiere at the Loew's Penn Theatre on Oct. 3. Koury and Siegel will operate as advance men, visiting all key cities on behalf of the picture.

KRS Booking

(*Continued from page 1*)

book to an exhibitor who does not hold at least a 51 per cent interest in the theatre he represents. If necessary, the exhibitors urged, legislative authority should be given cooperative booking in the forthcoming quota bill.

Combined booking, it was held at today's meeting, would open the door for cooperative societies in the entire exhibition field.

Name Griffiths KRS Head

LONDON, July 31.—D. E. Griffiths has been appointed paid president of the Kinematograph Renters' Society, effective Oct. 1.

M-G-M Buys "Ordet"

M-G-M International has purchased the Swedish film, "Ordet," and will distribute it throughout the world.

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Strike Here

(*Continued from page 1*)

meeting concluding early yesterday at Manhattan Center.

The strike, involving more than 1,200 projectionists, would affect hundreds of theatres here, including most of the Broadway houses. The local is seeking a 34 per cent wage increase, and a five per cent welfare fund.

The union's demands were submitted in May, and negotiations have dragged since that time. Last week, a union spokesman indicated the matter might be referred to Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE. A threatened strike by laboratory technicians here was recently averted when Walsh intervened.

St. Louis Stagehands Get $11.25 Increase

ST. LOUIS, July 31.—Stagehands will get a pay increase of $11.25 per week, retroactive to a War Labor Board decision in 1945, under a two-year contract signed by the St. Louis Amusement Co. and the AFL Stagehands Union, Local No. 6. The new agreement also specifies duties of the stagehands.

Negotiations were conducted by Frank Stickling and Elmer Moran for the union, and Clarence M. Turley and Thomas L. Farrington for the company which operates 24 theatres.

French Export Pact

(*Continued from page 1*)

124 features annually to France. The pact, entered into following the Byrnes-Blum accord, was voluntarily agreed upon in the spring of 1946 and became effective July 1, 1946. The declared purpose was to avoid deluging the French market with U. S. product.

Meanwhile, industry executives who have returned to the U. S. from Paris recently, report the French Government plans measures to limit the number of features placed on the market by independent U. S. producers, which is said to be excessive.

While UA is not a member of the MPA here, the company works closely with the association in France, paying dues and joining with members in joint projects.

N. J. Federation

(*Continued from page 1*)

Federation has been polling New Jersey exhibitors on the question of the organization's permanency. The poll revealed, Gold said, that the theatremen advocated arriving at a decision at a meeting where a full discussion could be given the subject.

During the last session of the New Jersey legislature when it appeared that a state-wide law would be passed to empower localities to levy theatre admission taxes, the Federation was organized to combat the measure. It succeeded to the extent that the law was finally limited to coastal cities only. Practically all circuits and independent theatres in the state are represented in the Federation.

MGM Book Promotion

M-G-M has concluded arrangements with Grosset and Dunlap, publishers of "The Hucksters," for a joint film-book exploitation tieup in which theatre owners and book dealers can participate for prizes, under the supervision of William R. Ferguson, exploitation director of M-G-M.

Power Shortage Hits Some Mexico Houses

MEXICO CITY, July 31.—Several theatres here and in surrounding zones have been hit by a recurrence of an electricity shortage. "Blackouts" have been made necessary for six hours daily, in installments of three hours each, and a number of theatres have found it necessary to temporarily suspend showings.

Many other theatres, however, have overcome the emergency by using their own power plants. Advertising that they are equipped with power plants which insure against stoppage of shows has increased business for many houses.

Landers Promoted

HARTFORD, July 31.—George E. Landers, manager of E. M. Loew's theatre in Hartford, has been named district manager of Loew's houses in Connecticut and western Massachusetts, including the new drive-in in Newington, Conn.

Landers, manager of the Hartford theatre since 1930, has been associated with Loew's since 1923.

Korda Players on Stage

A new British stage-screen alliance between the British Theatre Group and Sir Alexander Korda's London Film Productions has been consummated, the Korda office here has reported. The Theatre Group will start production in September under the direction of Basil Dean. The Group will invite players of London Film to appear in its plays.

Rank House to Open

TORONTO, July 31.—Odeon's Fairlawn Theatre, first to be constructed in Toronto by J. Arthur Rank's company will open Thursday night, Aug. 14, with a benefit performance for the Canadian Motion Picture Pioneers, the feature being "Green for Danger" and not "The Best Years of Our Lives," as announced some time ago.

Ace Starts Its First

HOLLYWOOD, July 31.—Ace Productions, newly formed producing company which will release through Producers Releasing, has put its first production, "Headin' for Heaven," before the cameras at Motion Picture Center. George Moskov, in association with Jack Schwarz, is producing.

Rank's 'Frieda' Dated

J. Arthur Rank's British production of "Frieda," being released here by Universal-International, will have its American premiere at the Park Avenue Theatre, New York, on Thursday, Aug. 14.

Approve Sunday Films

SPARTA, Ga., July 31.—By a narrow margin, the citizens of this community have voted for Sunday pictures and Sunday baseball.

Next Congress

(*Continued from page 1*)

gress in the closing days of the session.

It is almost certain, too, that the drive for some sort of censorship, at least in the District of Columbia and probably on a nationwide basis, will be intensified.

Finally, there is always the chance of a nice drawn-out battle over another British loan.

'Ad Valorem'

(*Continued from page 1*)

part. The group probably will join around the MPA conference table when time for direct action presents itself, that being if and when a proposal countering *ad valorem* comes to the fore and proves acceptable.

That England is desperate in its efforts to cut dollar expenditures for imports is fully acknowledged by Johnston and the company chiefs. They know that any measure designed as a substitute for *ad valorem* would be impractical unless it provides for a cut in remittances to the companies from the British market.

'Shot in the Twilight'

Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, empowered to put the *ad valorem* duties in effect when he sees fit, is reported here as saying that means of taxation is "not a shot in the dark, but rather a shot in the twilight." The remark was relayed here by an executive closely concerned with the situation and recently returned from London.

The interpretation, he said, is obvious. Dalton is aware of the fact that *ad valorem* has its shortcomings but unless a better alternate comes up, it should be adopted, it was said.

Imposition of the British tax would be an obstacle to international trade, film executives here feel, not alone in itself, but in the probability that other nations might follow suit.

The gravity of the situation was further emphasized and the need for almost immediate action by the companies became even clearer here yesterday with a London dispatch in the New York *Times* reporting that Prime Minister Atlee will unveil next Wednesday a "dramatic plan" for a drastic curtailment of spending for commodity imports. The *Times* report had it that "it is regarded here (London) as almost certain that United States films will be affected."

'Freezing Plan' Weighed

Still being considered by the companies, along with others, is a recommendation of a program which would have its roots in the one adopted during the early part of the war, placing a ceiling on dollar remittances with the balance "frozen." The maximum monetary export to the U. S. was then set by the British at $17,500,000 annually, shared by the companies on the basis of earnings of the previous two years. This was for 1940. Withdrawals in 1941 were pegged at $12,900,000, and the maximum went up to $20,000,000 for 1942. When lend-lease was put into effect the British made a final payment of $50,000,000, this in November, 1942, and remittances have come through regularly since.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
June 29	STRANGER FROM PONCA CITY Smiley Burnette O	(June Releases) LIVING IN A BIG WAY Gene Kelly Marie McDonald D—103 min. (Rev. 5/29/47)	(Reissue) DILLINGER Lawrence Tierney D—70 min. (Rev. 3/13/45)	THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Color) Betty Hutton John Lund C—96 min. (4615) (Rev. 5/26/47)	HEARTACHES Sheila Ryan D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/1/47) PIONEER JUSTICE Al La Rue O—56 min. (753) (Rev. 6/30/47)	NORTHWEST OUTPOST Nelson Eddy Ilona Massey D—91 min. (615) (Rev. 5/12/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(June Releases) MOSS ROSE Peggy Cummins Victor Mature D—82 min. (717) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(June Releases) ODD MAN OUT James Mason Robert Newton D—113 min. (Rev. 2/26/47)	THE UNFAITHFUL Ann Sheridan Lew Ayres D—109 min. (623) (Rev. 5/27/47)
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D	DARK DELUSION James Craig Lucille Bremer D—90 min. (Rev. 4/10/47)	(Reissue) MUTINY IN THE BIG HOUSE Charles Bickford D (Rev. 10/11/39)		GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams C—61 min. (711) (Rev. 7/31/47)	RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min. (666)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)			THE WEB Edward O'Brien Ella Raines William Bendix D—87 min. (615) (Rev. 5/22/47)	
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)		KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. (619)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET Maureen O'Hara John Payne D—96 min. (718) (Rev. 5/2/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	IVY Joan Fontaine Herbert Marshall Patric Knowles D—99 min. (Rev. 6/9/47)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (Rev. 5/20/47)	THUNDER-BOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754)	SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) (Rev. 7/31/47) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Reissue) WESTERN UNION Robert Young O—93 min. (719) (Rev. 2/3/41)	(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (Rev. 6/2/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (Rev. 6/12/47)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		(Eagle-Lion) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(July Releases) BOB, SON OF BATTLE (Color) Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)			
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (Rev. 11/3/38)	NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)			WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	(Block 7) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)		(Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.		FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (Rev. 7/30/47)	(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)	(Hunt Stromberg) LURED Lucille Ball Charles Coburn D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)		CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	(August Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	(Eagle-Lion) GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lili Palmer D	(August Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 24		ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	RAILROADED John Ireland D		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(August Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.	SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Aug. 31	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D		(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 min. (Rev. 6/25/47)				CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)			SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	
Sept. 7	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min.										

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.

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German Films Revived Under Military Gov't

Production, Exhibition, Distribution, Separated

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3. — War Department plans for rebuilding the German film industry and restoring its participation in foreign markets were outlined in a release issued jointly here and in Berlin.

The release declares that the film industry is to be reconstructed "on a democratic basis, in an independent, decartelized form under the supervision and control of Military Government."

Distribution will be commercialized, it continues, by licensing domestic and foreign distributors under the principle that German screens should be open to foreign and domestic product on a free and competitive basis within current regulations governing the activities of firms licensed to do business in the U. S. zone.

However, the release reports, no "interest or combination of interests, whether German or foreign, is to have such control of production, distribution or exhibition in the industry as might limit competition or permit the

(*Continued on page 6*)

WB Chiefs Address New York Meeting

Final sessions of the three-day Warner Eastern and Canadian sales convention, which closed here on Saturday, featured addresses by president Harry M. Warner, who discussed economic conditions here and abroad as they affect the industry and the world situation in general, and vice-president Albert Warner, who talked on distribution.

Conditions in exhibition were dis-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Republic Sales Meet Opens Here Today

First session of a two-day sales meeting called by James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president in charge of sales, will get underway here today at the home office.

District managers Sam Seplowin,

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPA Plan for UK 'On Time'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3. — Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston has revealed that he expects to have the industry's alternative to the Dalton *ad valorem* tax proposal ready for sending to London early this week—probably tomorrow or Tuesday at the latest.

Johnston still refused to indicate what the alternative would be, but said he is "sure it will not be" a guarantee to Britain of minimum remittances from the U. S.

He stated the alternative would be in final shape and approved by the industry by the deadline. Asked if he would take the proposal to London in person, the MPA head said, "I certainly hope not." He indicated he would prefer transmitting it to Dalton by a combination of airmail

(*Continued on page 7*)

200 To Testify in Coast Labor Probe

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3.—A total of at least 200 subpoenas are understood to have been issued to producers, studio executives, motion picture guild and union officials and other industry figures, ordering them to appear as witnesses at the House labor sub-committee investigation of studio labor practices which will get underway here tomorrow.

Already, some 50 from the industry, including Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, and Roy Brewer, IATSE international representative, have received subpoenas from U. S. Marshal

(*Continued on page 6*)

Casey Willing to Act As Coast Arbitrator

Pat Casey, veteran film labor relations expert, reiterates his willingness to serve as arbitrator in the Coast jurisdictional studio strike "if it would help settle it."

Last June, Herbert K. Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, in Hollywood, offered to submit the matter to Casey as arbitrator. The latter said at his office here that he had heard nothing further, and pointed out that agreement of "all" parties involved would have to be reached before he would serve as arbitrator.

NYC Filming Report Ready This Week

Film company executives this week will receive from New York City's director of labor relations, Edward C. Maguire, a recapitulation of the various city departmental regulations which apply to film production and will be requested to give the City the benefit of their advice concerning the extent to which those regulations tend to "hamstring" production activity here, it was disclosed by Maguire's office at the weekend.

Following receipt of the company executives' recommendations, Maguire will meet again with the industry committee which has been cooperating with him. Committee includes Tom Mead, Universal-International; Leslie Thompson, RKO Radio; Frank Phelps, Warners; William D. Kelly and Edward C. Dowden, M-G-M, and representatives of United Artists and 20th Century-Fox.

Drive to Enlist Support For Advertising Code

Efforts to enroll widespread industry support for the revised advertising code, unanimously adopted by the directors of the Motion Picture Association on Wednesday, swing into operation at once.

Telegrams outlining the step are on their way to leading exhibitors and exhibitor associations throughout the country, under the signature of Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the Advertising Advisory Council and the Eastern Public Information Committee. Reactions are being sought and cooperation requested.

Text of the revamped code will be printed in bulk. (It appeared in full in MOTION PICTURE DAILY Thursday.) Each signatory company, including all of the majors, except United Artists which is not a member of MPA, has agreed to slip a copy into one pressbook, which means many exhibitors will be getting duplicates. Copies will go to members of all sales forces, with explanatory notes, plus a request that they discuss the code with exhibitors and seek their cooperation.

When Eric Johnston reaches Hollywood, he will invite MPA member companies and independent producers to a roundtable discussion.

Sears Election To Head UA Set For Tomorrow

Given Full Autonomy; Kelly, Executive V.-P.

Gradwell L. Sears will be elected president of United Artists at a meeting of the board of directors slated for tomorrow. The board has its instructions from Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, co-owners, so that the procedure will be strictly routine.

At the same time, Arthur W. Kelly, long expected to return to UA as its executive vice-president, will assume this post by further action of the board.

On Friday, Edward C. Raftery, current incumbent, who has been seeking to retire from the UA presidency for a long time, sent the following telegram to home office execu-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Jersey ATO Hits Roadshow Prices

A resolution condemning "the practice and policy of selling pictures with compulsory increase of admission prices as highly detrimental to the entire industry," has been adopted by the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. The organization urges "exhibitors everywhere" to resist "all attempts by distributors to sell their

(*Continued on page 7*)

PCCITO Submits Percentage Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—Declaring it considers the "cost of playing time given any top percentage pictures in U. S. theatres far exceeds the cost of production and distribution," the Pacific Coast Conference of Inde-

(*Continued on page 6*)

3 Reviews Today

"Wild Harvest" and "I Know Where I'm Going" are reviewed on page 3; "Blackmail" is on page 7.

Paramount News Is Twenty Years Old

Paramount News is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The newsreel came into being in 1927 when the Pathe News organization was taken over by Paramount in the reorganization of Pathe Exchange, Inc.

Subsequent years saw the expansion of Paramount News until it was available in every European language, with special British and French editions.

A. J. Richard, editor-in-chief, a pioneer in screen journalism, entered the field in 1910 as a member of the staff of Pathe Weekly. It was about the time that Charles Pathe of the original Pathe Freres of France introduced the newsreel in the American market.

Tom Waller Starts at M.P.A. Post Today

Tom Waller will assume new duties today as director of information in the New York office of the Motion Picture Association. Eric Johnston, MPA president, announced that Waller will be in charge of an expanded publications program covering all phases of the association's activities. While Waller will be located in New York he will work with Washington headquarters, directly under Kenneth Clark, chief of the information department.

Waller goes to the association from United Artists where he was publicity manager.

'Red Stallion' Dates Set by Schwalberg

Nationwide deals which will put Eagle-Lion's "Red Stallion" into major houses of National Theatres, Interstate, Paramount-Richards, M. and P. and other circuits in a series of day-and-date openings have been closed by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager.

The picture will have its world premiere on Aug. 12 at the Majestic in Houston and at the Carthay Circle, Los Angeles, simultaneously. Max E. Youngstein, E-L's advertising-publicity director, reports a $325,000 budget has been set for key city promotions for the picture.

Altec Lansing Buys Peerless Electric

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—Peerless Electric Products Co., makers of fluorescent lamp starters and transformers, has been purchased by Altec Lansing Corp. here, G. L. Carrington, president of Altec, reports.

Peerless occupies two buildings adjacent to the Altec plant here.

Michalson in Dual Capacity for RKO

Harry Michalson, who will be formally elected president of RKO Pathe, Inc., at the company's next board meeting, will retain his present RKO Radio short subject sales manager post.

Personal Mention

ANDREW W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox's general sales manager, will leave New York today for Minneapolis to address the North Central Allied Theatre Owners meeting tomorrow. SAM SHAIN, director of exhibitor relations, will accompany him.

•

P. T. ELSEY, son of the owner of Delta Theatre Supply Co., New Orleans, is on an extended trip to San Diego, Hollywood and San Francisco.

•

PAUL ACKERMAN, Paramount International advertising-publicity director, will return here this week from an upstate vacation.

•

MURRAY B. HOWARD has resigned as manager of the Palace, South Norwalk, Conn., to manage the Art Theatre, Springfield, Mass.

•

BEN GOETZ, head of M-G-M's British studio activities, and his wife are due here tomorrow from the Coast en route to England.

•

HASSOLDT DAVIS, explorer-producer, and MRS. DAVIS, left New York at the weekend for a French Guiana exploration trip.

•

BOB HAMILTON, manager of the Warner Gem Theatre, Willimantic, Conn., has returned to his post following illness.

•

JOSEPH MOSKOWITZ, 20th Century-Fox's vice-president and Eastern studio representative, has returned here from the Coast.

•

BERT HOLST, head of the 20th-Fox and Movietone News libraries in the East, has returned here following a month's illness.

•

JACK RIEGER of Trinity Pictures, left New York for Hollywood over the weekend to discuss 1947-48 production plans.

•

GEORGE BOLSTER, assistant manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, is motoring through Canada on a vacation trip.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio exhibitor relations chief, has returned here from a two-week vacation in Minnesota.

•

AARON ROSENZWEIG has been promoted from student employe to salesman in PRC's Pittsburgh branch.

•

HAROLD MIRISCH, Allied Artists vice-president, returned to Hollywood from New York over the weekend.

•

PAUL F. THOMAS, Altec treasurer, has returned here from a Vermont vacation.

•

VICTOR SAVILLE, M-G-M producer, is due here Wednesday from Hollywood.

•

HARRY JAMES flew from Philadelphia to the Coast at the weekend.

H. F. KINCEY and family have returned to Charlotte from a month's vacation in Wyoming.

•

MOREY GOLDSTEIN, Allied Artists-Monogram general sales manager, accompanied by ARTHUR GREENBLATT and ARNOLD STOLTZ, last night flew by way of Chicago for a business trip to New Orleans and Memphis.

•

GUTHRIE CROWE, president and executive director of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, has been elected a vice-commander of the Kentucky division of the American Legion.

•

EDWARD C. DOWDEN, Loew's assistant publicity director, returned to New York at the weekend from a two-week vacation on Long Island.

•

ALBERTO LAUTARET, Argentina circuit owner, will go to Mexico tomorrow from Hollywood before returning to Buenos Aires next week.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. executive, will leave here today for a one-week visit to Minneapolis and Kansas City.

•

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M's assistant general sales manager, will return to New York today from a Vermont vacation.

•

R. C. SUTTOON, Universal-International Memphis salesman, has undergone an appendectomy in St. Joseph's Hospital there.

•

CHARLES LOWE, Warner sound engineer in the Hartford district, returned to that city on Saturday from a vacation.

•

M. L. SIMONS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, returns here today from vacation.

•

LILLIAN C. CLAUGHTON, head of the Claughton Circuit in Miami and Tampa, has been visiting New York.

•

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner Theatres executives, has left here for Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle Lion's exploitation manager, is en route to Dallas from New York.

•

L. J. PATTON, Altec's Atlanta district manager, has returned to that city from New York.

•

JOHN FULTON, Samuel Goldwyn Prod. special effects director, is in town from the Coast.

•

BERT GOLDBERG, Herald Pictures executive, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

DANE CLARK is in New York from the Coast.

•

CARY GRANT is due here today from Hollywood.

Newsreel Parade

THE Marshall plan and the Greek war are highlights of current newsreels. Other events covered are the Kaiser-Hughes probe in Washington, the arrival of Vatican singers, and varied items of human interest. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 97—The Marshall plan in a world divided.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 296—Henry J. Kaiser at the Senate inquiry. Brest port suffers fate of Texas City. Army transport runs aground. Senora Peron dazzles diplomats. Vatican singers here. Fashions. Aqua-skiing. Motorcycling.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 97—Water skiing in Florida. All-stars play for Babe Ruth. French harbor disaster. Washington's $40,000,000 mystery.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 100—The Kaiser-Hughes probe. The Greek war.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 61—Henry J. Kaiser at the Senate probe. Forty die as nitrate ship explodes. Sister Kenny arrives on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.* Army transport runs aground. Roman singers arrive.

'U-I' Blumberg-Rank Drive Over Quota

Billings for the first eight weeks in Universal-International's current "Nate Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank Good Business Sales Drive" are over quota, according to the company's home office. The Eastern division, headed by Fred Meyers, is leading; the district headed by Dave Miller, which includes Albany, Buffalo and New Haven, is the leading district; the Denver branch, headed by Mayer H. Monsky, is the leading branch; and the leading salesmen are Mark M. Holstein, Dallas; Abraham Swerdlow, San Francisco, and George Reif, New Haven.

DeVry Film Library To American Film

CHICAGO, Aug. 3.—DeVry Corp. has disposed of its 16mm. film rental library to the American Film Registry, operated here by Lee Robins, W. C. DeVry, president has disclosed.

DeVry said that the transfer would give his firm more manufacturing space, enabling it to concentrate completely on the manufacture of motion picture equipment.

Central Casting Placements Off

HOLLYWOOD, August 3.—Actor placements through the Central Casting Office during the first six months of 1947 were 19 per cent below that of the same period of the previous year, Howard Philbrick, general manager, reports.

'Song' at Music Hall

"Song of Love," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, has been booked for Radio City Music Hall, G. S. Eyssell, president and managing director, announces, with its world premiere at the Hall immediately following the engagement of "Down to Earth, the theatre's next booking.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Building Boom for Pacific Northwest

Portland, Ore., Aug. 3.—During the balance of 1947 there promises to be a greatly increased impetus in construction of new theatres in the Pacific Northwest, especially in the Inland Empire area near Spokane, where several surburban and drive-in theatres are contemplated.

Italy Invites 36 Nations to Exhibit

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, July 30 By (Airmail).—Thirty-six countries have been invited by the Italian Government to participate in an International Exhibit of the Motion Picture Technique at Venice from August 14 to September 10.

The Exhibit will offer sectional exhibits covering the technical aspects of production and distribution, color film, sub-standard film, inventions and research, television, books and publications, as well as the showing of representative product.

The participation of the British, French, Argentinian and Russian industries has already been assured.

$1,000,000 Studio Set for Tiajuana

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—Studios are being built at Tiajuana, for Hollywood producers who want to work in Mexico, by a group of Tiajuana builders and businessmen who are investing $1,000,000 in the undertaking, announces Manuel Macias, a member of the group.

The studios, he said, will give Hollywood producers a higher average of assurance of freedom from labor and other difficulties that often stop work in the six Mexico City studios.

European Releases For 'Roosevelt Story'

Distribution deals for "The Roosevelt Story" have been closed by co-producer Oliver Unger in England, France, Holland and Germany, he reported at the weekend following his return here from an eight-week tour of Europe. The film will be released in Germany through the Allied Military Government and will carry narration in the native language of all countries where it is shown, he said.

Unger said that European openings will be set to coincide with visits Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will make to various European cities this month.

File Video Applications

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—The *Philadelphia Inquirer* has applied for construction permits for three new experimental television relay broadcast stations, in the Philadelphia area, the Federal Communications Commission announces. FCC also revealed that the *Milwaukee Journal* had been granted a construction permit for an experimental television relay station in Milwaukee.

Reviews

"Wild Harvest"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, Aug. 3

THE brilliant box-office performance of Alan Ladd's recent "Calcutta," in which he crossed up the critics by setting attendance records across the land, appears guarantee enough of the kind of business the star will be accounting for in this production, which gives him Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston and Lloyd Nolan as running mates. He had but one marquee companion, the redoubtable William Bendix, in "Calcutta." With three, it figures to mean nothing in the box-office scheme of things that the film is a cross-thatching of ingredients generally rated as uncongenial.

The script, by John Monks, Jr., originally known as "The Big Haircut,' concerns the annual harvesting of the North American wheat crop by traveling crews who arrive with their combines when the grain's ripe, harvest it for farmers and ranchers and then move on. According to the script, these crews are made up of hard men, not unlike the sailors of a thousand sea stories, who take their fun where they find it, fight singly or collectively, with or without provocation, and do not let women come between pals. Miss Lamour, portraying a farmer's niece who takes her liquor straight and makes her passes at men without feinting, falls hard for Ladd, boss of the crew which harvests her uncle's crop, and declines to take no for an answer. When the crew moves on, she marries Preston, Ladd's pal and long-time rival in adventure, in order to get taken to where Ladd has gone, as she quite bluntly states. Ladd is suitably impressed, but prefers to play square by Preston, whom the wife-for-a-purpose influences to steal grain from the customers. This theft precipitates a situation in which Ladd and the others flee with Preston, in a road chase across state lines which is the picture's action highlight, instead of turning him over to the authorities. Later on, all wind up in a barroom, where the wife tells the husband why she married him, whereupon Ladd and Preston knock each other out, then bury their differences immediately and rush off to the next place of harvest, leaving the wife standing speechless as the picture ends.

There is a lot of action, predominantly of the fighting kind, with men battling singly and in crowds, and considerable motion, as the crews with their combines move across the country. There is loss of effectiveness, however, in the alternation between seriousness and humor in the handling of the story and, particularly, of the fights. The use of marriage as a device for transportation, together with certain situations and passages of dialogue, limit the usefulness of the attraction to adult audiences.

Robert Fellows produced, Tay Garnett directed, and the cast includes, in addition to those named above, Dick Erdman, Allen Jenkins, Will Wright, Griff Barnett, Anthony Caruso, Walter Sande and Frank Sully.

Running time, 92 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"I Know Where I'm Going"

(Prestige-Universal-International)

UNDER the banner of J. Arthur Rank's Prestige Pictures, the team of Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger have carefully fashioned a picture of discriminating tastes and subtle charms.

Wendy Hiller is the lovely lady who know's where she is going, and that is to a far-off isle in the Hebrides to marry an elderly gentleman whose millions spell happiness for her. She begins her journey with resolution, but life has a way of intervening with the plans of mere mortals. As she comes within sight of her destination, nature's wrath in storms and maelstroms, add another delay. When all obstacles to her journey's end are cleared, a final one asserts itself commandingly, the love of a young Highland soldier, and the young lady's gold-loving propensities soon dissolve.

Many splendid photographic effects and directorial touches add special distinction to the film. Its occasional symbolism, almost-poetic flights, and conversation pieces make the film commendable largely to art film patrons. Roger Livesey as the naval officer, turns in a performance of quiet competence. Powell and Pressburger wrote, directed and produced, with George Busby as assistant producer.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Set for August release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Neighborhood Is Now Operating 32 Runs

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 3.—Neighborhood Theatres, Inc., operating 30 theatres throughout the state, announces the addition of the Beacon and Broadway theatres in Hopewell, acquired from George Stath, theatre owner in Virginia and Washington. F. A. Bowling will continue as manager of the theatres, under the supervision of Howard Rubin, Neighborhood's Petersburg city manager.

'Unconquered' Premiere

World premiere of "Unconquered," Cecil B. DeMille's Paramount feature, will be held at the Carlton Theatre, London, on Sept. 12.

WB Vacation Closing

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—For the first time in recent years, Warner Brothers studio will have no picture in production during the next two weeks. All employes not engaged in preparations for forthcoming pictures will go on vacation during the two-week period.

Resume U-'IA' Talks

Representatives of Universal and Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63 will resume negotiations here on Wednesday on the union's request for a 14 per cent wage increase for 250 employes.

Hollywood

Aug. 3

THE Columbia studio cutting rooms are busier than they have been for a year, with 13 features editing and several others on their way to the splicing tables. Heading the group of films being cut is the Dick Powell-Signe Hasso starrer, "To the Ends of the Earth," produced by Sidney Buchman and Jay Richard Kennedy. Next is "The Lady From Shanghai," the Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles feature, which Welles directed. The remainder being cut include: "It Had to Be You," Ginger Rogers-Cornel Wilde comedy; "I Love Trouble," Fanchot Tone-Janet Blair mystery drama; "The Prince of Thieves," "Last Days of Boot Hill," "Six-Gun Law," "When a Girl's Beautiful," "Devil Ship," "The Crime Doctor's Gamble" and "Phantom Valley," latest Charles Starrett-Smiley Burnette Western.

•

"The Fountainhead" has been definitely placed on the active production schedule at Warners, with Henry Blanke to produce. This makes a total of eight films which Blanke is slated to produce. . . . Another busy producer at Warners is Alex Gottlieb, who has been assigned to guide "The Girl from Jones Beach," original comedy just acquired by the studio. Gottlieb is currently supervising production on five other films. . . . M-G-M has definitely set Aug. 26 for the start of "Joan of Lorraine, starring Ingrid Bergman. Walter Wanger will produce and Victor Fleming direct. . . . Republic continues to reach out into the story market for new screenplays. Latest purchase by that studio is an original novelette by Earl Felton, with a price tag on it of $50,000.

•

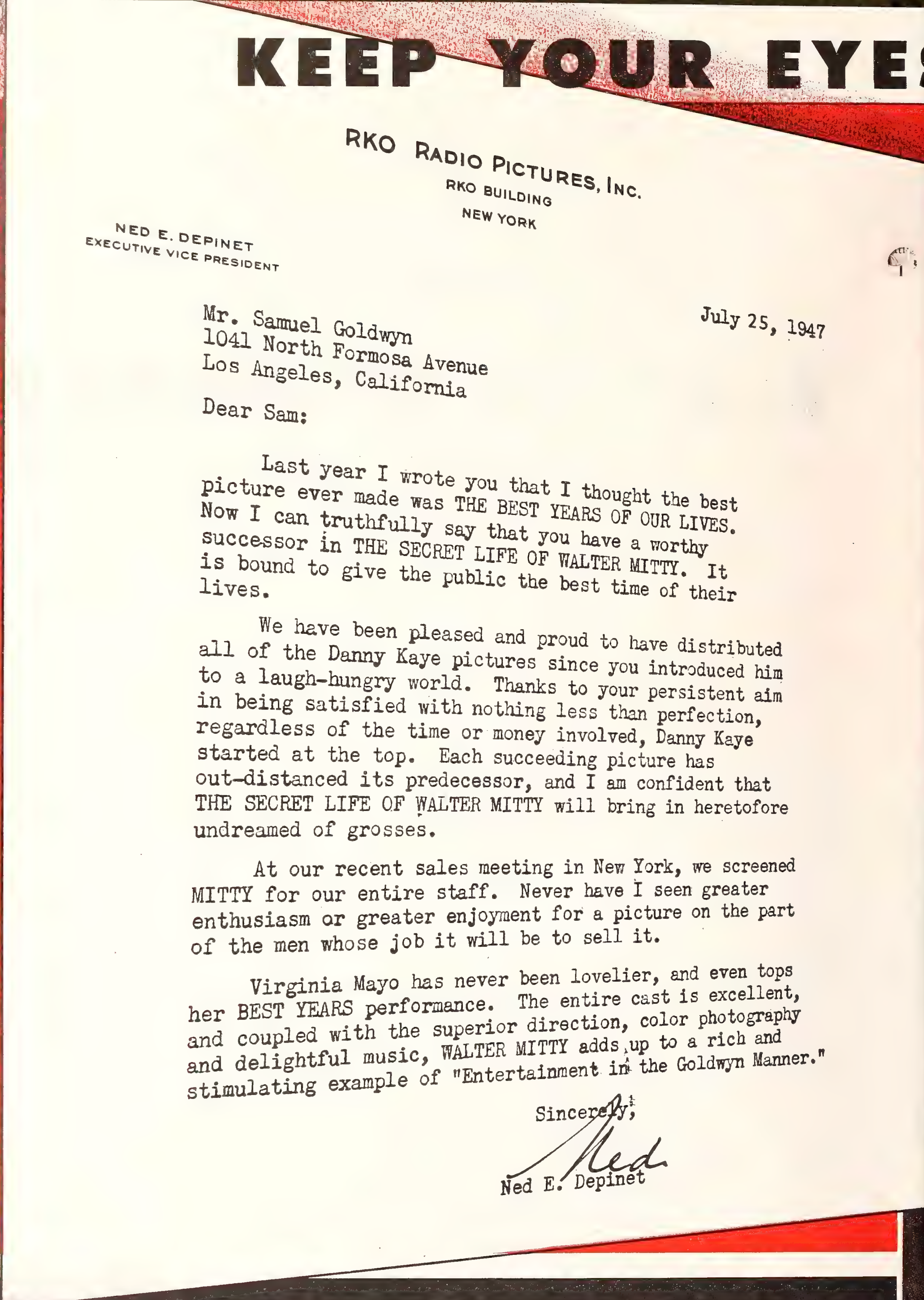
RKO Radio has acquired an original by Jerry Horwin. Title is "Mister Music" and it is reported to give a new slant on Tin Pan Alley. A top male star is being considered for the title role. . . . To an imposing list of new literary properties recently acquired, Warner Brothers has purchased "The Bright Leaf," to be adapted from a forthcoming novel about a Southern tobacco dynasty. . . . Triangle Productions announce three scripts as being ready for the cameras. Just completed is a new version of the Mary Roberts Rinehart mystery, "The Bat." Others at the ready-to-shoot stage are "Stardust Road" and "Hold It, Please," a Comet production for Jackie Cooper.

•

Twentieth Century-Fox has given "Off to Buffalo" the new and final title of "Give My Regards to Broadway." Dan Dailey and Nancy Guild head the cast. . . . Fourteen out of 18 short subjects, produced by the Jerry Fairbanks studios last year for Paramount, have been selected by the Library of Congress to be added to its collection of films representing contemporary American life. . . . Walt Disney's "Little People," a fanciful story of Ireland's legendary leprechauns, will be written for the screen by Lawrence Watkin, author of the best-seller, "On Borrowed Time" and noted for his fanciful type of writing in most of his literary output.

W. J. McG.

KEEP YOUR EYES



RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.
RKO BUILDING
NEW YORK

NED E. DEPINET
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

July 25, 1947

Mr. Samuel Goldwyn
1041 North Formosa Avenue
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sam:

Last year I wrote you that I thought the best picture ever made was THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES. Now I can truthfully say that you have a worthy successor in THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY. It is bound to give the public the best time of their lives.

We have been pleased and proud to have distributed all of the Danny Kaye pictures since you introduced him to a laugh-hungry world. Thanks to your persistent aim in being satisfied with nothing less than perfection, regardless of the time or money involved, Danny Kaye started at the top. Each succeeding picture has out-distanced its predecessor, and I am confident that THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY will bring in heretofore undreamed of grosses.

At our recent sales meeting in New York, we screened MITTY for our entire staff. Never have I seen greater enthusiasm or greater enjoyment for a picture on the part of the men whose job it will be to sell it.

Virginia Mayo has never been lovelier, and even tops her BEST YEARS performance. The entire cast is excellent, and coupled with the superior direction, color photography and delightful music, WALTER MITTY adds up to a rich and stimulating example of "Entertainment in the Goldwyn Manner."

Sincerely,

Ned

Ned E. Depinet

WORLD PREMIERE TODAY – WOODS THEATRE CHICAGO

ON MITTY!

SAMUEL GOLDWYN
presents

DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO

and the **GOLDWYN GIRLS**

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty

with

BORIS KARLOFF
FAY BAINTER
ANN RUTHERFORD

Produced by SAMUEL GOLDWYN
Directed by NORMAN Z. McLEOD
Screen Play by Ken Englund and Everett Freeman—From a Story by James Thurber
Director of Photography, LEE GARMES, A. S. C.

IN TECHNICOLOR

Released Through RKO Radio Pictures, Inc

Entertainment in the Goldwyn manner

UA Will Elect

(Continued from page 1)

tives and to the entire field force in the United States and Canada:

"It is with great pleasure that I announce Gradwell L. Sears will succeed me as president of United Artists as I am retiring to resume the practice of law with O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery and Lawler, but will continue as general counsel for the United Artists corporation. I am equally happy to announce the election of Arthur W. Kelly as executive vice-president of United Artists. I take this opportunity of thanking all of you for your loyal cooperation and know that you will extend to Messrs. Sears and Kelly the same degree of loyalty."

Given Complete Autonomy

Sears' promotion from vice-president in charge of distribution to the top executive post in UA—a post he frequently has stated he did not want—carries with it a firm understanding that he will operate with complete autonomy on management and administration and, at the same time, continue as general sales manager. Under his existing contract, it was possible for him to accept a higher post than the one for which he was specifically engaged in the event UA offered him one. The offer was made and Sears accepted.

The offer, moreover, was made directly to him by Miss Pickford and Chaplin without reference to the earlier arrangement which brought Joseph M. Schenck, executive producer of 20th Century-Fox, into the picture and found him receding from it when Chaplin refused to give him written power of attorney as Miss Pickford had done. Under the circumstances, Schenck, who was to be given a voting trusteeship and the sole right to select a president, refused to act so that the internal log-jam appeared heading for a continued impasse.

It appears the plan as to Schenck had originated with Sears, Kelly and Arnold Grant, the latter a UA director representing Miss Pickford.

See UA's Difficulties Hurdled

If Sears is permitted to function with complete autonomy, those familiar with recent UA operations on Friday were prepared to believe the company's difficulties would be surmounted.

Whether or not UA will again activate UA Prod., a subsidiary formed some years ago to engage in production, is one of the immediate speculations. It has been reported also that one plan under discussion but never adopted seeks to interest producers in conveying an interest in their attractions, perhaps up to 10 per cent, to the UA distributing company for which the producer would be extended preferential distributing costs cutting under UA's regular formula.

UA Sets Up $5,000,000 Fund for "Second Money"

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3.—Changes in United Artists' policy under the presidency of Gradwell L. Sears, he disclosed here prior to his departure for New York Friday night, includes establishment of a $5,000,000 rotating fund from which "second money" financing will be provided for UA producers. The company will handle only pictures in which it has this type of financial interest, under the new policy.

Sears said the rotating fund will be supplied by a "group of banks," and indicated he had arranged the deal.

Terms of the Sears' presidency provide him with power to cast the deciding vote on the directorate, which may be reduced in membership from eight to six.

Newly-appointed executive vice-president Arthur Kelly, who flew to New York at the weekend, will take charge of UA's foreign distribution, and will sail to England shortly to effect extensive changes in organization and personnel, Sears also disclosed.

While Sears will retain supervision of company sales, responsibility for foreign sales resides with Kelly, who will concentrate particularly on increasing playdates in England.

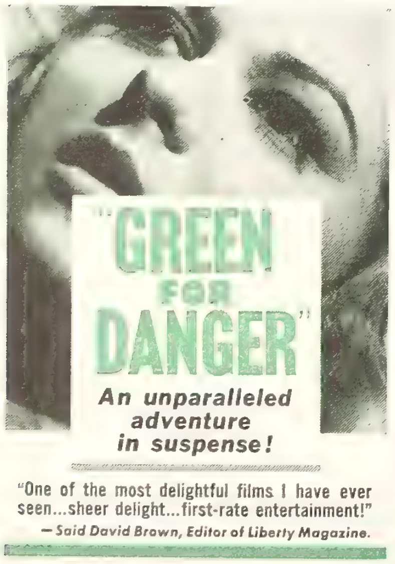
George Bagnall will continue as vice-president in charge of production.

Enterprise on "Sidelines", But Sears May Change That

George J. Schaefer, vice-president in charge of Enterprise sales, stated on Friday his company had informed UA of its intention of "sitting on the sidelines" while the latter's internal affairs continued in flux. However, this was prior to the selection of Gradwell L. Sears for the presidency in succession to Edward C. Raftery.

Schaefer added Enterprise had not notified UA of any intention to withhold delivery of contracted product such as "Arch of Triumph" and "Body and Soul" and pointed out that his company, by contract, is under no compulsion to make deliveries until six months after the completion of each film. Technical adherence to this gives Enterprise the right to turn over three pictures recently completed at a later date.

The anticipation, however, is that Enterprise will proceed normally with its UA arrangement now that Sears is to be in command.


"GREEN FOR DANGER"
An unparalleled adventure in suspense!
"One of the most delightful films I have ever seen...sheer delight...first-rate entertainment!"
—Said David Brown, Editor of Liberty Magazine.

Republic Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Central; Merritt Davis, Southern; Frank Dervin, New England, and Maxwell Gillis, Eastern, will be present for discussions with Southern division manager Walter L. Titus, Jr., and Eastern division manager James V. O'Gara. William Murphy, New York branch manager, will also attend the meetings, with others.

German Films

(Continued from page 1)

denial of the screen in Germany to other groups."

No date or deadline is given as to when the Motion Picture Export Association would be licensed to distribute films in Germany. MPA president Eric Johnston said last week at a press conference that he expected MPA to be licensed within a few months.

The War Department release states that the functions of production, distribution and exhibition will be treated as separate businesses. "Persons and firms engaged in any of these three branches," it says, "will not be permitted to engage in either of the others."

Films produced in Germany are to support the reorientation program, and their export will be encouraged in order to pay for imports of food and critical raw materials, according to the announcement.

Admission of Soviet, French and British distributors to the U. S. zone will depend, the release says, "upon full reciprocity for U. S. zone distributors from the respective zones."

The release quotes Col. Gordon E. Textor, information control chief in Germany, as stating that "an embargo will be placed on all German films produced prior to the occupation." It is understood that the embargo will apply to films sent out of Germany, but War Department officials here did not know if it would apply as well to films shown within the country. However, the release says, "particularly strict requirements have been established in connection with de-Nazification of the film industry." All persons connected with the industry must have "clean political bills of health and high moral standards."

Presumably this is the film program ratified by Johnston in what he termed "satisfactory" talks in Berlin with Textor and AMG chief Gen. Lucius Clay.

The Army states that the development of a documentary film industry is regarded as an integral part of the program. The weekly newsreel and an approved documentary film, it continues, will be shown at every film performance in U. S.-occupied territory.

The release points out the special need for American films in reorientation and says that "the showing of Allied documentary and feature films is regarded by Military Government as being of prime importance." Films will be used to acquaint the German public with the fundamentals of democracy, it continues, and to inform Germans of developments in democratic countries over the last 12 years.

Policies governing the development of the German film industry within the fused U. S. and British zones, the release concludes, "have been and will continue to be considered jointly by U. S. and British military government officials."

200 To Testify

(Continued from page 1)

Robert Clark to appear at the investigation.

The hearings, it is understood, will be widened to include the taking of testimony in connection with the Hollywood practices of Petrillo-controlled AFM in studio, radio and television fields.

WB New York Meet

(Continued from page 1)

cussed by Harry M. Kalmine, head of Warner Theatres. Mort Blumenstock, national advertising-publicity chief, detailed the company's "Life With Father" promotional campaign, and Howard Levinson, the company's distribution attorney, discussed the appeals in the industry anti-trust suit.

Group meetings, attended by branch managers and salesmen, were conducted by division manager Jules Lapidus and district managers Robert Smeltzer, Sam Lefkowitz, Charles Rich and Haskell Masters.

Home office executives left here following the Saturday meeting for Chicago for the company's Mid-western, Western and Southern district meeting.

WB Midwest Meet Will Start Today

CHICAGO, Aug. 3.—More than 125 members of the Warner sales organization, including New York home office executives, division sales managers, district managers, branch managers and salesmen from the Midwest, Southern and Western territories, are on hand here for the three-day convention starting tomorrow morning at the Blackstone Hotel.

Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, will preside, and the agenda will be along the same lines as the Eastern-Canadian convention held last week in New York.

Among the delegates will be: Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer, and the following: Home office executives, Ben Kalmenson, Samuel Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Harry M. Kalmine, Roy Haines, Jules Lapidus, Norman Ayers, I. F. Dolid, Norman H. Moray, Bernard R. Goodman, Ed Hinchy, Howard Levinson, Gilbert A. Golden, Robert A. McGuire, Stanley W. Hatch, Larry Golob, William W. Brumberg, Charles Baily, Don Gillette.

District managers: Harry A. Seed, Hall Walsh, John F. Kirby, Doak Roberts, Henry Herbel.

Branch managers: A. Jack Shumow, Robert H. Dunbar, Nat Marcus, Arthur W. Anderson, D. P. Webster, Russell C. Borg, Frank J. Hannon, Lester Bona, W. O. Williamson, Ralph J. Iannuzzi, Luke Conner, W. Don Woods, Ed. Williamson, Vernon Adams, Earle A. Bell, Fred Greenberg, Al Oxtoby, William F. Gordon, Al Shmitken, Vete Stewart.

Some 73 salesmen will be on hand.

PCCITO

(Continued from page 1)

pendent Theatre Owners has presented all major distributors with a formula for licensing percentage pictures to smaller theatres.

The formula, which PCCITO urges distributors to adopt instead of the various licensing programs now under consideration, reads: "On percentage pictures, not to exceed three per selling season, distributor to be guaranteed 15 per cent of gross up to the point where gross reaches the theatre's overhead plus such 15 per cent rental; then the theatre is to receive an amount equal to the 15 per cent film rental guaranteed to the distributor; thereafter the distributor and theatre are to share dollar for dollar."

PCCITO supplied distributors with statistical data which, it asserted, represents the average overhead of 8,000 theatres.

MPA Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

and telephone, but might have to go himself.

Johnston 'Acquaints' Truman With British Film Tax Plan

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston "acquainted" President Truman and other Government officials with the British film tax proposals, but he did not ask any Government intervention, the MPA head said here at the weekend prior to his scheduled departure last night for Spokane.

He warned President Truman that it is essential for the U. S. to come immediately to the economic aid of Great Britain. "I told him we couldn't afford not to assist the British over the bleak period of the next few months," Johnston said.

Occasion for the White House visit Friday was the presentation to the President by Johnston of the three-reel Polish film sent by Film Polski on the devastation of Warsaw and the city's reconstruction plans. Johnston said he discussed the general foreign situation with the President and had touched only once or twice on specific film subjects.

The White House visit climaxed a series of conferences with top Government officials, including Secretary of State Marshall.

RCA Franchise in N.W.

SEATTLE, Aug. 3.—Franchise for RCA theatre equipment for Washington, Oregon, Northern Idaho, Montana and Alaska has been granted to Selom Burns, who has formed the Modern Theatre Supply Co. here. Burns, who will be assisted by Everett Clawson, Lee Scott and John Peterson, has been with RCA in Seattle for 17 years.

Lenticolor Incorporated

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 3.—Lenticolor, Ltd., has been incorporated to engage in the film import-export business, and to deal in motion pictures, photography and television. Incorporators are: J. G. Heiges, E. B. Henley and W. E. Lindenmuth, all of New York. Mudge, Stern, Williams and Tucker were the incorporating lawyers.

Film 'Ads' in Video Show

CHICAGO, Aug. 3. — Dad's Old Fashioned Root Beer is presenting a 26-week program over WBKB, B. and K. television station, featuring the first all-film comercials to be used on Chicago television. The one-minute films commercials are produced by Television Advertising Productions, Inc.

MAGNIFICENT Fireproof 7-Story Building in Jersey City; ideal for studio, movies, films, warehouse, etc. Large cathedral windows. 126,000 square feet and land adjoining. Railroad sidings. 3 minutes from Hudson Tubes Cortlandt Street station. For sale or lease. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

Review

"Blackmail"

(*Republic*)

GLOSSILY mounted, and swiftly-paced under the direction of Lesley Selander, "Blackmail" is another of those rough-and-tough mystery melodramas which have their roots in the Dashiell Hammett-James M. Cain school of detective fiction. Well-turned, brassy dialogue (Albert DeMond is credited with additional dialogue) and a full measure of stormy fist-fighting were written into Royal K. Cole's screenplay; Robert Leslie Bellem wrote the original story.

William Marshall, hard-boiled "private eye"; Ricardo Cortez, playing a wealthy theatrical magnate who hires the detective to solve the murder of a blackmailing actress, and Adele Mara, in the role of Cortez's girl friend, head a cast which also includes also Grant Withers, Stephanie Bachelor, Richard Fraser, Roy Barcraft and others. Performances are adequate generally, although Marshall tends to overact in spots as the nervy sleuth whose wisecracks are sometimes as deadly as his fists.

When Cortez hires Marshall, the latter almost immediately views his client as the chief suspect in the actress's murder. The lady had been blackmailing Cortez. But, following her death, someone else fell heir to her blackmailing scheme. Another killing takes place to further baffle Marshall, until, finally, hunches lead him to the real culprit. The ending provides a real surprise, and audiences should find the picture a pleasing hour's entertainment. William J. O'Sullivan was associate producer.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, July 24.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Jersey ATO

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures under this harmful and short-sighted policy."

Singling "Duel in the Sun" and "Best Years of Our Lives" as among those for which exhibitors are required to increase admission prices, the resolution states that "such increase in admission prices arouses considerable ill-will and dissatisfaction among theatre patrons who either cannot afford to pay more money or pay it under protest because they don't get the benefit of proportionate reductions from the usual scale for inferior productions."

Continues the resolution: ". . . the publication of high gross receipts reported by key theatres playing these pictures gives a false picture of prosperity among exhibitors generally."

Customers Resent Increased Admissions, KMTA Alleges

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 3.—Many instances of increased admissions are resented by regular theatre customers, according to reports received by the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association, which adds that most major circuits frown on advanced prices.

Distributors of a few "outstanding" productions originally scheduled for release at "top takes" are now willing and ready to release on the established price set-up, KMTA reports.

Natco in Army Deal

CHICAGO, Aug. 3.—A contract from the Army has been awarded Natco, Inc., for 742 additional 16mm. projectors, to be used in conjunction with the current State Department's educational program in Italy, Germany and Japan.

F-C Names Four

DALLAS, Aug. 3.—The appointments of Jake Lutzer as branch manager; J. E. Mitchell, office and sales manager; and Howard Waugh and Francis Ferris as sales representatives for Film Classics was announced here by Sam Wheeler, general sales manager

Astor Gets 6 Westerns

Astor Pictures has closed with Western Attractions, Inc., for distribution rights throughout the world to six Harry Carey Westerns.

May Hold 16mm. Festival in Capital

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Chester A. Lindstrom, head of the Washington Film Council, has appointed a committee to study the possibility of holding an educational film festival here in the fall. Chairman of the committee is Joel Ferris of the Motion Picture Association. Members appointed to date are Dalta Halverstadt, of the Office of Government Reports, and J. A. Otten of MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Adams Joins Sprague

NORTH ADAMS, MASS., Aug. 3.—William McMillan Adams of New York now heads export activities of Sprague Electric Co., makers of parts for television receivers. Sprague president Robert C. Sprague said the move is part of a new policy to take advantage of post-war expanding world markets.

WB Promotes Berg

Fritz Berg, associated with Warner Brothers for many years in Brazil, has been named manager in that country by Wolfe Cohen, vice-president of Warner International. Berg succeeds Ary Lima, who recently was promoted to supervisor for Brazil, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay.

New Drive-In Theatre

ALBANY, Aug. 3.—The Fabian-Kellman drive-in theatre, recently constructed in North Philadelphia, was opened last Thursday. It has a capacity of more than 800 cars and will be managed by Joe Bernstein, former Fabian house manager in Richmond, Va.

Saul Krugman Resigns

Saul John Krugman, Eastern sales representative for Samuel Goldwyn, resigns as of August 22, having completed his work on the roadshow and pre-release engagements of "The Best Years of Our Lives."

'Mitty' Shown Aug. 12

RKO Radio will hold an advance trade showing of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," in Technicolor, at the Astor Theatre, New York, on Tuesday, Aug. 12.

Mexico City Grossed $15,466,793 in '46

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—Of a $19,562,641 total amusement gross in 1946, motion picture theatres accounted for $15,466,793, according to the municipal government treasury department here. The total gross was $600,000 below the figure of 1945.

The department reported that 82 theatres gave 68,887 performances, for which there were 49,723,477 admissions.

In 1939, motion picture theatres showed a gross of only $3,653,832, when 40 cents was the highest admission charge. Today, the price is 85 cents, and $1 in some cases. The government tax is 10 to 15 per cent, with motion picture theatres in the higher bracket.

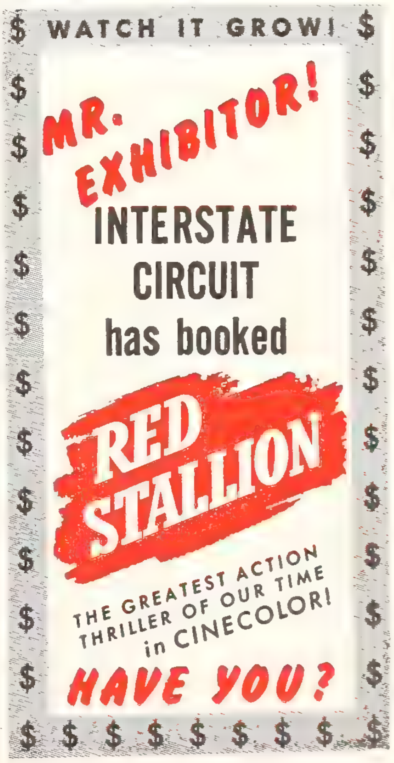
U.S. Films 'Stronger Than Ever' in S. A.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—American pictures are stronger than ever in South America in terms of exhibitor and public favor, and Mexican pictures, which are said to be losing ground in that territory, can only hope to meet Hollywood competition by becoming much better than they are now. This is the report of Max Gomez, RKO Radio Latin American sales manager, who recently returned here from a two-month tour of Latin America.

Gomez's survey of the field was made in behalf of Ramex, RKO Radio's producer of pictures in Spanish.

Deny Municipal Figures

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3.—In contradiction with the recent finding of the municipal government that the number of potential motion picture theatre patrons here has increased by 40 per cent since 1942, exhibitors estimate that only about six per cent of the local population of some 3,000,000 can be counted upon as steady business for film theatres.


$ WATCH IT GROW! $
MR. EXHIBITOR!
INTERSTATE CIRCUIT has booked
RED STALLION
THE GREATEST ACTION THRILLER OF OUR TIME in CINECOLOR!
HAVE YOU?
$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $

47 Films Are In Work at Coast Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 3. — With eight new films going before the cameras, and nine sent to the cutting rooms, the production graph went from 48 to 47. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "The Black Arrow," with Louis Hayward, Janet Blair, George Macready, Edgar Buchanan and Rhys Williams.
Finished: "The Strawberry Roan," "Phantom Valley."
Shooting: "The Sign of the Ram," "The Crime Doctor's Gamble," "Tex Granger," "The Mating of Millie."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "T-Man," "Northwest Stampede."

Goldwyn

Shooting: "That's Life."

"M-G-M"

Shooting: "Killer McCoy," "Virtuous," "The High Wall," "On An Island With You," "The Kissing Bandit."

Monogram

Started: "Dusty Trail," with Johnny Mack Brown.

Paramount

Shooting: "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "My Own True Love."

PRC

Started: "The El Lobo Mystery," with "Lash" Larue, Fuzzy St. John and Nancy Bates. "Headin' for Heaven," Stuart Erwin, Glenda Farrell.
Finished: "Linda Be Good" (Cameo), "Gun Law."

Republic

Started: "The Gay Ranchero," with Roy Rogers, Tito Guizar, Jane Frazee, Bob Nolan, "Sons of the Pioneers," Estelita Rodriguez.
Finished: "The Fabulous Texan," "Under Colorado Skies."
Shooting: "The Red Pony."

RKO Radio

Started: "Wild Horse Mesa," with Tim Holt, Nan Leslie, Richard Martin, Dick Powers.
Shooting: "Roughshod," "Your Red Wagon," "I Remember Mama," "The Miracle of the Bells."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

Screen Guild

Finished: "Dark Road."

20th-Fox

Finished: "Foxes of Harrow."
Shooting: "The Snake Pit," "Daisy Kenyon," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Nightmare Alley," "Green Grass of Wyoming," "Dangerous Years" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Started: Hopalong Cassidy No. 4. With William Boyd, Rand Brooks, Andy Clyde, Helen Chapman, Anne O'Neal, John Parrish and Earle Hodgins.
Shooting: "Sleep My Love," "The Time of Your Life."

Universal-International

Started: "River Lady," with Yvonne De Carlo, Dan Duryea, Rod Cameron, Helena Carter.
Shooting: "Mortal Coils," "The Senator Was Indiscreet," "The Naked City" (Hellinger) "A Double Life" (formerly "Imagination"), "Tap Roots" (Wanger-Marshall).

Warners

Finished: "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre."
Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), "Ever the Beginning," "Silver River."

U. K. Relaxes Regulation On Sale of Stocks, Bonds

LONDON, Aug. 3. — British holders of stocks and bonds of American corporations are to be allowed to sell them and use the money so obtained for the purchase of other American securities, under a ruling relaxing controls of the Bank of England to permit such transactions. The new ruling will become effective at a date to be disclosed later.

To prevent the export of British capital the cost of securities purchased for reinvestment must not exceed the amount realized from securities sold.

This means Britons will not be able to retain dollars realized on sales of American securities or set up dollar balances in American banks. Any funds not reinvested must be surrendered to the British treasury for sterling equivalent.

Permission will be granted, however, to apply proceeds gained from sale of American securities towards reduction of any loan against which securities are held.

Exhibition Improves In Czechoslovakia

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3. — A total of 132 features were exhibited in theatres in Czechoslovakia last year, compared with 59 in the previous year, the motion picture section of the Department of Commerce reports. While the improvement was considerable, it is still far from the pre-war average of about 300.

The theatres were almost entirely dependent on imported films during the past two years, with only three Czechoslovakian feature films were shown in 1945 and 10 in 1946.

In 1937-39, the United States was the principal supplier of motion picture films, more than 43 per cent of all features exhibited during that period in Czechoslovakia being produced from the United States. However, in 1945 and 1946, British, Russian, and French productions had the leading positions. In January-November 1946, a total of 46 British, 27 Russian, and 26 French pictures were shown in Czechoslovakia, compared with only 20 from the United States.

Production Cost Cuts Assailed in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3. — Emphatic disagreement with the Mexican producers' drastic retrenchment policy of establishing less than a $100,000 ceiling on the production cost of individual pictures has come from Emilio Azcarraga, Mexican circuit and radio station owner.

Stinting costs impairs a picture's quality, Azcarraga asserts. Quality, he said, is exactly what Mexican pictures need most because of the keen competition of Hollywood and England. He declared that while he endorses the producers' plan to eliminate extravagance in picture-making, he feels that $200,000, or even as much as $600,000, is not too much to spend for producing a high quality picture.

"Shoe Shine" Premiere

"Shoe Shine," Italian film being distributed in this country by Lopert Films, will have its American premiere on Aug. 27 at the Avenue Playhouse, here.

Hungarian Plan Concerns MPEA

By ALEXANDER FODOR

BUDAPEST, July 30 (By Airmail).— A plan for the expenditure of $180,000 on raw materials and for purchase of American pictures from independent producers is of concern here to the Motion Picture Export Association. Should the plan go through, and indications are that it will, the MPEA will have a difficult time combatting the competition from American independents since about 90 per cent of the theatres in Hungary are owned by political parties, which, for obvious reasons, will reserve preferred playing time for those pictures which they can purchase.

The Communist Party-controlled Danube Valley Bank has made the $180,000 available to the Hungarian distributing agencies, owned by the three leading political parties.

It is planned by Mafirt, the Communist distributing agency, to distribute independent American product, as well as Russian, British, French, Danish and Swedish. American films, however. currently dominate the market, as they have heretofore.

The MPEA is rumored to be carrying on promising negotiations with Hungarian Government agencies for the transfer of considerable dollar funds. In addition to the major distributors, the small independents are making trips to Paris, London and even the U. S. to get at least one or two big pictures for importation. It is doubtful, however, whether the Hungarian National Bank will grant necessary dollar funds for such imports. Some individuals lately have sent American films as gifts to their relatives in Hungary, and such transactions are permitted reluctantly by the National Bank.

Schlesinger Quits W-K

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Aug. 3.—Herb Schlesinger, booker for Wilby-Kincey, here, has resigned effective Aug. 16 and will move to New Orleans where he will join the Independent Booking Office.

Italy Admission Tax Increased Up to 50%

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, July 30 (By Airmail). — A new tax bill has been published in the Italian *Official Journal* which is seen as an incentive for increased theatre building.

The bill does two things: It increases admission taxes, but more importantly it provides that the [illegible] tax shall be turned over to local boroughs. Previously, the tax had been paid directly to the central government. Under the new law, theatre admission taxes will benefit those areas from which they are collected. Admission taxes have totaled about $15,000,000 annually, up to this time.

The bill provides that the 30 per cent tax on admissions of from 20 to 60 lira shall be increased to 35 per cent and that the 40 per cent tax on admissions of more than 60 lira shall be increased to 50 per cent. The greater part of the admissions are 60 lira or more.

As budgets of most Italian boroughs are not balanced, the new tax could induce the boroughs to support the establishment of new theatres by renting public meeting places to exhibitors. There are 3,000 towns that could use new theatres and an additional 2,000 towns in which there are no theatres.

Meanwhile, Antonio Mosco and Constantino Potsios, managers of the Minerva Co., have been cleared of all responsibility for the film fire which destroyed Minerva's office building, and have resumed their positions. Approximately $35,000 was paid by Italian and foreign producing and distributing companies to families of the victims of the Minerva blast.

Universal-International will release 21 pictures in Italy during 1947-48.

More Competition Threatens Films

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3. — Though U. S. films now have negligible foreign competition in North China, three potential dangers do exist, according to a report issued here today by Commerce Department motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden.

These possible threats, Golden says, are: The government-controlled industrv could import equipment and technicians and force foreign films out of the market; foreign countries could direct their nationals in North China, who are handling mainly U. S. films, to handle only their own films; extension of the type of contract required of exhibitors of U. S. films specifying a showing on Saturday and Sunday and as many days thereafter as the theatre is filled to 40 per cent capacity by the film in question.

This last threat, states the report, leaves the way open for "spot-booking" of non-American films for the rest of the week if a U. S. film is not profitable at the end of two-days' showing.

Open Mexico House

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 3. — With the opening of the Cine Majestic here, by the Emilio Azcarraga circuit, local first-run theatres now number 10. The new 2,500-seat house opened with a showing of Universal-International's "Great Expectations."

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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Foundation Is Nearly 100% Set in Field

Late Summer Meet for Trustees Is Possible

With all but two exchange areas fully organized or on the verge of being organized for the raising of the $10,000,000 for the aid of needy film workers by the Motion Picture Foundation, it now appears certain that an MPF national trustees' meeting will be held either in late summer or early fall at a yet-to-be-designated city.

Since mid-April, when area organizational activity got underway, some 378 MPF committeemen have been named in 21 cities, while 37 national trustees and area chairmen have been elected to head their respective units.

Meanwhile, of the 10 areas remaining to be organized, eight have temporary chairmen who are expected to call organization meetings soon, while temporary steering committee chairman Barney Balaban is expected to appoint temporary chairmen for the remaining two areas shortly.

Cities in which organization activity

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPTOA Units to Vote on Merger

Individual meetings of state and regional units of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will be held shortly for the purpose of voting upon the proposed affiliation with American Theatres Association.

In a special MPTOA bulletin, Fred Wehrenberg, president, declares that the national director of each unit should be prepared to report on the

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPEA Re-elects Johnston, Others

The following have been re-elected officers of the Motion Picture Export Association for 1947-48: Eric Johnston, president; Francis S. Harmon, vice-president; Irving A. Maas, vice-president and general manager; Gordon E. Youngman (vice-president and general counsel of RKO), secretary; Herbert J. Erlanger, assistant secretary; George Borthwick, treasurer; Frederick W. Du Vall and Frank J. Alford, assistant treasurers.

Speculate in London Over Johnston Plan

London, Aug. 4.—Momentarily, speculation abounds here as to what "alternative" plan Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston will be able to conjure up to the threatened Dalton film import tax.

All speculation, however, ends by Wednesday when Prime Minister Atlee will make public his new "austerty" program in the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, details of the American alternative, providing for a voluntary freezing of 25 per cent with the remaning 75 per cent to flow without interruption reached London too late tonight to learn either Government or industry reactions.

Johnston manifestly was surprised by the excessively firm attitude adopted

(*Continued on page 6*)

Most N. Y. 1st-Run Grosses Are Normal

Current business at New York's first runs continues at an overall normal level, with the leaders of last week still on top.

The Music Hall's "Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," with the stage presentation, drew a top-notch $90,000

(*Continued on page 7*)

INDUSTRY TO OFFER 25% FREEZE TO U.K.

Fearful Alternative May Hit Elsewhere

Close observers of the British situation are concerned over repercussions elsewhere. If the American proposal for a voluntary freeze of 25 per cent of remittances from Britain should prove acceptable to the Labor Government, it is viewed as entirely possible that Australia, New Zealand and, perhaps, South Africa will move in the same direction.

Regardless of what form of restriction is determined eventually, the probability is being entertained strongly here that these three countries will act similarly.

Would Run Six Months, Then Be Reviewed and Maybe Extended Again

A 25 per cent freeze in British remittances for a period of six months after which the situation then prevailing would be reviewed is the focus of the alternative plan which member companies of the Motion Picture Association have agreed upon as their way of aiding Britain's economic dilemma.

This, of course, is the promised alternative to the Dalton plan which calls for an *ad valorem* tax on British imports of American product, a proposal which aroused pronounced antagonism in England as well as in America.

The proposal entertains the possibility of extending the 25 per cent freeze for a full year, always dependent upon conditions, but it is understood the initial approach to the Labor Government will fix the period of review after six months and thereafter stretch

(*Continued on page 6*)

Thomas' PRC Tie To End Shortly

Harry H. Thomas' three-year contract as president of Producers Releasing Corp., which normally would expire in May, 1948, is expected to be terminated shortly by PRC parent company, Pathe Industries, to make way for the long-anticipated absorp-

(*Continued on page 8*)

ATOI Hits Salesmen for Ignoring Rental Brackets

Indianapolis, Aug. 4.—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana complain that "many salesmen persist that there is no such thing as predetermined '(film rental)' brackets and that each picture that is offered for sale must be priced on its merits (according to the distributor's opinion thereof) and attention is no longer paid to the old guide-posts of brackets.

"All of a sudden salesmen have received the magic gift of being able to classify a picture not merely into one of five or six allocations but even down to 'half way between the second and third brackets' or '30 per cent more than the second bracket!'" declares the ATOI, in a bulletin to members.

The ATOI declares the result is that "the exhibitor now has no way of knowing whether or not he is paying 30 per cent more than his established second bracket, or, what is much more likely, that his second bracket has merely been raised by 30 per cent." It adds that "in spite of all sales talks you can be sure that the distributor still carries specific 'allocations' for each situation on his own records."

In conclusion, the ATOI advises that "the best defense is to adhere to your old classifications and avoid all these in-between come ons. If necessary, it would even be better to deal at the next higher bracket. Then you will at least know what is happening to your deals."

Allied Artists Goes Into MPA and MPEA

Following several months of conferences, Allied Artists Productions has joined both the Motion Picture Export Association and the Motion Picture Association of America, it was announced yesterday by Eric Johnston, president of both organizations. Allied Artists thus becomes

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sears to Outline UA Plans Tomorrow

Gradwell L. Sears, whose formal election as president of United Artists is to be held at a UA board meeting today, is expected to fully discuss the company's plans at a press conference here tomorrow. Arthur Kelly's election as executive vice-president also is scheduled for today.

2 Reviews Today

"High Tide" and "The Great Dawn" are reviewed on page 8. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Low Priority for U.S.-State Tax Study

Washington, Aug. 4.—A Treasury Department study finds little need for immediate work on the problem of coordinating the administration of Federal and state admission taxes. Due partly to the fact that interstate commerce is not a consideration, state and municipalities are able to administer this group of taxes with reasonable success, the Treasury finds, and therefore "amusement taxation can at best merit a low priority in a near-term program for federal-state fiscal coordination."

Most state taxation of amusements is in the form of a general sales tax, and therefore "the problem in this field is not so much one of amusement tax overlapping as one of overlapping between the state general sales taxes and Federal excise taxation," the report says.

"Because the state rates under the sales tax," the study continues, "are extremely low (2 per cent in all cases), the overlapping in this field has attracted little attention."

The report declares the expanding use of admission taxes at the local level so far has created no special problems, and that in only a few cases are city and state amusement taxes overlapping.

State collections from the specific admissions tax amounted to $11.9 million in 1946, the study finds, but no figures are available on the general sales tax collections in theatres.

NBC Appoints New Vice-Presidents

Three new administrative vice-presidents, a new vice-president, and an acting general counsel have been appointed by the board of directors of the National Broadcasting Co. under a realignment of the executive organization of NBC, according to an announcement by Niles Trammell, president.

The administrative vice-presidents include Harry C. Kopf, Ken R. Dyke, and John H. MacDonald. I. E. Showerman, formerly manager of the central division, was elected vice-president. Henry Ladner was named acting general counsel, following retirement of A. L. Ashby, vice-president and general counsel, who will continue to serve as a legal advisor. Another retirement was that of Clarence L. Menser, vice-president in charge of production and program departments.

Salzburg, Baumstone Join Post Pictures

Milton Salzburg and Harold Baumstone, heads of Academic Film Co., have joined Post Pictures Corp. as sales executives. Under the arrangement, Post acquires the exclusive distribution rights to all of Academic's product.

Post has moved to new quarters at 115 West 45th St. here. It handles distribution of shorts and features in the 16mm. field.

Personal Mention

Albert Warner, Warner vice-president, flew to Chicago yesterday, to take part in the company's convention there.

•

Pet Rosian, Universal-International Southern district manager, Cincinnati, and A. J. O'Keefe, home office executive, are in Charlotte for talks with Jim Frew, U-I branch manager there.

•

David Farrar, British screen star, and Emerson Foote, vice-president of Foote, Cone and Belding, are among passengers who will arrive here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

Neil F. Agnew, president of Selznick Releasing Organization, who was due here yesterday from the Coast, is now expected here tomorrow.

•

Alfred H. Tamarin yesterday commenced his duties as publicity manager at United Artists home office.

•

Monroe R. Goodman, assistant to Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects sales manager, is vacationing at Lake Placid, N. Y., for two weeks.

•

Larry Caplane, manager of the RKO Grand, Columbus, O., will marry Marilyn Judith Rose on Sept. 6.

•

Norris B. Cresswell has been named office manager and booker of Screen Guild Productions' Kansas City office.

•

Robert Weait, treasurer and board member of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, is due here today on the *SS Queen Mary* from England.

•

William Pizor, Screen Guild Prod. foreign distribution head, is en route here from the Coast.

•

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., United Artists advertising-publicity director, has returned here from Hollywood.

•

A. C. Brauninger, head of Warners' 16mm. department, has a birthday today.

•

Herbert Marshall and Patricia Mallory were married Sunday in Santa Barbara, Cal.

•

Ben Washer, Paramount publicity manager, is back here from Coast conferences.

•

Donald Ogden Stewart, M-G-M writer, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

•

Al Lichtman, M-G-M studio executive, and Carey Wilson, producer, arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

•

David E. Rose, producer, arrived here yesterday from the Coast, and will sail for England on the *SS Queen Mary* on Friday to close his affairs there. He is expected back here at the end of the month.

•

Rudolph Weiss, head of the Warner real estate department, will be in Washington today and will return to the home office tomorrow.

•

George Bagnall, United Artists production vice-president, will leave Hollywood tonight by plane for New York.

•

Nestor Lao and Dimas Galan, executives of Foreign Screen Corp. de Cuba, are in town for home office conferences.

•

Jack Goldstein, RKO Radio studio representatives, will return here next Monday from a week's vacation in New Hampshire.

•

Robert Guilfoyle, Gerald Scheierenback and Charles Ellis of Paramount's transportation and traffic department are on vacation.

•

Joseph Rosner of the Paramount home office publicity department is vacationing in Northern Connecticut.

•

Marguerite Bourdette, secretary to Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president, is on a two-week vacation.

•

Lynn Farnol, Eastern director of advertising and publicity for Goldwyn Prod., will head for the Coast Sunday from New York.

•

Dudley Nichols, who is in town from the Coast, is scheduled to leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

Rene Clair, French producer who arrived here last week from Paris, will head for the Coast tomorrow.

•

Harry M. Kalmine, Warner Theatres president and general manager, is in Chicago from New York.

•

Morris Goodman, president of Discina International Films, has returned here from Canada.

•

Samuel K. Sherman has joined PRC as a booker in Atlanta.

•

Sid Mesibov, Paramount assistant exploitation manager, is on vacation.

Truman Thanks 'Reels'

Washington, Aug. 4.—President Truman has thanked newsreel photographers and other press representatives for their kindness and consideration in covering his mother's funeral and his activities in Grandview, Mo. Because the President and his family requested privacy, coverage of his mother's funeral was voluntarily restricted, and no photographs taken.

To Fete Swedish Star

Alf Kjellin, the young Swedish actor, will be host at a cocktail party to be given by Selznick International Pictures at the Monte Carlo here tomorrow afternoon. A trailer will introduce from the screen Valli, Italian star, and Louis Jourdan, young French star. At 3:45 P.M. a screening of "Intermezzo," which Selznick is reissuing, will be held.

Cantor to Get UJA Humanitarian Award

Eddie Cantor will receive a certificate of award for "humanitarian service" in recognition of his contribution to the success of the $170,000,000 United Jewish Appeal for the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of 1,500,000 Jewish survivors in Europe UJA discloses here.

The UJA award will be presented to Cantor within the next month at a special dinner in his honor. Similar awards will be made also to other[illegible] the theatre, radio, the press and public life, whose cooperation has helped arouse the American people to the tragic needs of the Jewish survivors of Nazi persecution overseas and to the importance of the appeal.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG · SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
ESTHER WILLIAMS
RICARDO MONTALBAN
'FIESTA'
M-G-M's Technicolor Musical
IN PERSON
DEAN MARTIN & JERRY LEWIS
JOHNNY BURKE
HERMAN CHITTISON
Extra!
GRACIE BARRIE

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
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DOORS OPEN 9:30 A.M.
POPULAR PRICES
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
37TH WEEK!
COOL
ASTOR
B'WAY & 45th ST.

"THE PERILS of PAULINE"
in TECHNICOLOR
Starring
BETTY HUTTON
JOHN LUND
A Paramount Picture
IN PERSON
"HOUR OF CHARM" ALL-GIRL ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR
Under the Direction of PHIL SPITALNY
featuring EVELYN and Her Magic Violin
ELIZABETH TALBOT-MARTIN
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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$8,500,000 Pathe Boston Bank Loan Is Transfer Deal

The $8,500,000 loan agreement which Pathe Industries will sign with the First National Bank of Boston before the end of this month embodies no more than the transfer of the company's existing $8,500,000 loan contract with the Bank of America, Warren Sharpe, Pathe treasurer, revealed here yesterday.

Sharpe said the contract for the loan with the Bank of America, which he signed a year ago in Hollywood, will expire at the end of this month. The agreement is being transferred to First National of Boston, Sharpe said, because of the interests that institution has in the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and other enterprises headed by Robert R. Young, who is Pathe Industries' principal stockholder. The move, presumably, has an "eggs-in-one-basket" motivation.

The Boston bank, Sharpe indicated, may choose to spread part of the loan among some other financial institutions while supporting the major portion itself. On the other hand, he said, the Boston bank may be compelled to do just that under the laws of the State of Massachusetts. Other institutions which have been mentioned as possible participants are Bank of Manhattan, Marine Midland Bank, Continental Bank and Empire Trust Co.

During the past year, Sharpe said, the $8,500,000 borrowed from Bank of America has been used exclusively to finance production by Eagle-Lion and PRC, both Pathe Industries subsidiaries. Under the First National Bank of Boston agreement, he added, the money will be used for the same purpose. Should the reportedly imminent absorption of PRC by Eagle-Lion become an accomplished fact, E-L will be sole heir to the funds and, presumably, will pick up where PRC leaves off in the production of low-budget films, along with its own regular schedule, according to Sharpe. He declined to guess as to how soon the anticipated absorption of PRC by Eagle-Lion will take place, but recalled that the absorption "has been talked about for a year" and described such an arrangement as "no more than transferring change from one pocket to another." Sharpe is treasurer of Eagle-Lion and PRC as well as Pathe Industries proper.

97 Pictures Reviewed By Chicago Censors

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—The Chicago film censor board reviewed 97 motion pictures, consisting of 485,000 feet of film, during the month of July. They reported 56 cuts and one picture, "The Patient Vanishes" as being classified for adults only. In addition, "Wages of Sin," "Reckless Girls" and "Kilroy's Here" were rejected from the city's show houses.

Mochrie to Speak

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice president and general sales manager, will represent the company at the meeting of the Southeastern Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association to be held at the Alcazar Hotel, Miami, Fla., Aug. 12-14.

Rank Loses Writ Appeal in UW Suit

TORONTO, Aug. 4.—Three J. Arthur Rank enterprises in the U. S. and England have lost their appeal from an order of the Master in Chambers at Osgoode Hall which granted permission for the serving of writs outside the local jurisdiction in behalf of Paul L. Nathanson's Empire-Universal Films Ltd. and United World Pictures of Canada Ltd. against Rank and a group of companies in a film-contract dispute.

Justice J. Genest dismissed the appeal with costs in the cause in favor of the respondents who appeared in the appeal. This means that writs can be served against original defendants in New York and London. The appellants were J. Arthur Rank Organization Inc., New York; Eagle-Lion Films Inc., New York; and General Cinema Finance Corp. Ltd., London.

Although the judgment has been officially announced, it is understood that at least one writ has already been served at New York. The original trial is scheduled in the fall before the Supreme Court of Ontario. Plaintiffs claim damages for the alleged transfer of a Canadian distribution contract for certain Hollywood product to another company at Toronto and ask for an order to restrain any contract except to plaintiffs. Other defendants include Eagle-Lion Films of Canada and Monogram Pictures of Canada.

Rank Gets Extension in N. Y. Suit

New York Federal Court Judge Alexander Holtzoff yesterday granted to defendants J. Arthur Rank, the J. Arthur Rank Organization and Eagle-Lion a time extension until Sept. 2 for their filing of answers to breach-of-contract suit brought by Empire-Universal of Canada and United World Films of Canada. Seeking $1,000,000 damages from Rank himself alone, plaintiffs allege defendants withdrew distribution rights to certain pictures. Universal and Rank's General Cinema Financing Corp. of England are also defendants.

Goldsmith to Address Video Engineers

Warren R. Goldsmith of New York will address the Society of Television Engineers on "Hollywood and East Coast Television" at a meeting of the Society in Los Angeles, Aug. 20. His address will enumerate Hollywood's contributions to the development of television through photography and will point out the importance of films in future television operations.

Goldsmith is the son of Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, former vice-president of RCA, who recently became associated with Richard W. Hubbell and Associates, a television consultant organization here.

'Black Gold' Opening

"Black Gold," Allied Artists' Cinecolor film starring Anthony Quinn, will have its New York City premiere at Loew's State Theatre here on Sept. 4.

'Stranger' Opening Here

Paramount's "Welcome Stranger," starring Bing Crosby, Barry Fitzgerald and Joan Caulfield, opens tomorrow at the Paramount Theatre here.

Johnston Praises First MPA Short

Washington, Aug. 4.—The Motion Picture Association's first public affairs short, Warner-produced "Power Behind the Nation," got final approval here Saturday when MPA president Eric Johnston saw it at a special showing and enthusiastically approved it.

Johnston termed the film "especially good for foreign showing, where it can counteract communist propaganda that America faces depression and economic collapse."

Distribution details for the film, which is expected to be released in mid-September, are being worked out by Norman Moray of WB and Dave Palfreyman of the MPA in cooperation with the theatre committee.

Griffis Trust Sold 3,000 Para. Shares

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 4.—Sales of 3,000 shares of Paramount common by Stanton Griffis trust, making its holdings 20,800, was the largest transaction reported in the film industry, according to the latest Securities and Exchange Commission report. Griffis also sold 220 shares from his personal account, leaving his holdings at 9,000.

Maurice Newton of New York sold 115 shares of Paramount, making his total 18,505. Newton's trust reported holding 18,380 shares of Paramount common.

At Republic, Herbert Yates acquired an additional 1,400 shares of common stock, at 50 cents par, bringing his holdings to 50,800. Yates also reported holding 900 shares of $1 cumulative preferred and $25,000 worth of four per cent cumulative income debentures. Onsrud, Inc., holding company, reported having 86,950 shares of 50 cents par value common stock, while Antonsen Realty Corp. reported 14,685 shares of 50 cents common and 12,200 of $1 cumulative preferred.

At Loew's, Inc., Eugene W. Leake of New York sold 100 shares of common stock, and at RKO Radio William H. Clark reported holding 730 warrants for common, plus 75 shares of $1 par common.

At Columbia Harry Cohn reported holding 139,127 shares of common. He also bought 100 shares of $4.25 preferred. Lester W. Roth of Hollywood reported acquiring 5,125 shares of common last May.

At Trans-Lux Harry Brandt acquired 1,600 additional shares, making his total 80,515. Broadyork, Inc., a Brandt holding company, reported holding 1,000 shares; Harday Operating Co., another holding company, 1,400, and Mrs. Brandt, 14,700 shares.

Commonwealth Meeting

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 4.—Commonwealth Theatre's annual fall meeting will be held at the President Hotel here on Sept. 16 and 17. Convention will be climaxed with a picnic at Star Lane Farm.

Kalmenson Sees Top Business Prospects

CHICAGO, Aug. 4.—Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Bros., addressing the opening session of the company's sales convention here today, presented an analysis of general business conditions, citing the "record high" level of employment, the "unprecedented prosperity" of farmers and the "current peak levels of practically all trade indices," in support of his belief that the "potentialities for a high rate of motion pictures attendance will continue for a long time to come."

Kalmenson's analysis was confirmed by a "roll call" report in which district and branch managers from various sections of the country gave a brief account of conditions in their territories. A similar roll-call report was made in New York last week at the sales convention attended by the Eastern and Canadian forces.

Consensus of the field force opinion showed that except for usual warm weather effects, business has been holding up well and the fall outlook is even better.

In some sections, notably the coal and steel regions of Pennsylvania, motion picture attendance actually is running ahead of the wartime boom level, it was disclosed, and Kalmenson said that with higher wages and shorter working hours, good business for theatres is inevitable.

Major Albert Warner, vice-president of Warner Bros., was the honored speaker at the opening session of the convention here. He talked briefly on distribution matters and the general industrial outlook.

Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, outlined the company's promotional plans for coming product, headed by the world premiere campaign on "Life With Father."

The short subject lineup for 1947-48 was presented by Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager and president of Warner Pathe News. Moray also discussed the Warner newsreel which makes its bow next week.

Howard Levinson, member of the legal staff representing distribution, talked on the New York Federal Court decree and instructed the salesmen on procedure for cooperating with exhibitors in various situations.

Jack L. Warner, executive producer, will be the chief speaker tomorrow.

Manitoba Showmen Protest 20% Tax

WINNIPEG, Aug. 4.—The Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors Association has petitioned the Dominion Government for the abolition of the 20 per cent war excise tax.

The organization contends that the over-all taxes, including dominion and provincial amusements in particular, imposed on theatres, are excessive in comparison to taxes imposed on other businesses.

'Life' Premiere Aug. 14

World premiere of Warner Brothers' "Life With Father," at the Lakewood Theatre, near Skowhegan, Me., on Aug. 14, will be reported coast-to-coast on the American Broadcasting Co. 7 P.M. (E.D.T.) show, "Headline Edition," direct from Skowhegan.

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Golden Boy

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Based upon the Group Theatre play by CLIFFORD ODETS

Good Girls Go To Par

co-starring

MELVYN DOUGLAS · JOAN BLONDELL

with WALTER CONNOLLY · ALAN CURTIS · JOAN PERRY
Screen play by Gladys Lehman and Ken Englund
Directed by ALEXANDER HALL

JEAN ARTHUR · GEORGE BRENT

IN

More THAN A SECRETARY

with LIONEL STANDER

RUTH DONNELLY • REGINALD DENNY • DOROTHEA KENT
Directed by ALFRED E. GREEN

LORETTA YOUNG · RAY MILLAND

in

THE DOCTOR TAKES A WIFE

with REGINALD GARDINER • GAIL PATRICK
EDMUND GWENN • GEORGES METAXA
Screen play by George Seaton and Ken Englund
Directed by ALEXANDER HALL • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

LET US LIVE

with

MAUREEN O'SULLIVAN · HENRY FONDA
RALPH BELLAMY

ALAN BAXTER • STANLEY RIDGES • HENRY KOLKER
Screen play by Anthony Veiller and Allen Rivkin
Based upon a story by Joseph F. Dinneen • Directed by JOHN BRAHM

GEORGE RAFT · JOAN BENNETT

in

She Couldn't Take It

with WALTER CONNOLLY • BILLIE BURKE
Directed by TAY GARNETT • A B. P. SCHULBERG PRODUCTION

JOE E. BROWN

IN

The Daring Young Man

with MARGUERITE CHAPMAN • WILLIAM WRIGHT • ROGER CLARK
Original screen play by Karen DeWolf and Connie Lee
Directed by FRANK R. STRAYER • Produced by ROBERT SPARKS

JOE E. BROWN

in

Shut My Big Mouth

with ADELE MARA • VICTOR JORY • FRITZ FELD
DON BEDDOE • LLOYD BRIDGES • FORREST TUCKER
Screen play by Oliver Drake, Karen DeWolf, Francis Martin
Directed by CHARLES BARTON • Produced by ROBERT SPARKS

Columbia!

SPECIAL!

TEXAS

with

WILLIAM HOLDEN · CLAIRE TREVOR · GLENN FORD

GEORGE BANCROFT · EDGAR BUCHANAN

Story by Michael Blankfort and Lewis Meltzer
Screen play by Horace McCoy, Lewis Meltzer, Michael Blankfort
Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL · Produced by SAMUEL BISCHOFF

SPECIAL!

Wesley Ruggles'

ARIZONA

starring JEAN ARTHUR with

WILLIAM HOLDEN · WARREN WILLIAM · PORTER HALL

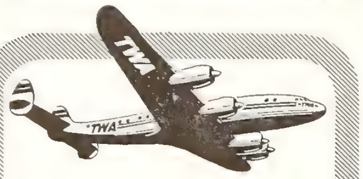
And A Cast Of Thousands

Based on the Saturday Evening Post serial and novel by Clarence Budington Kelland
Screen play by Claude Binyon · Directed by WESLEY RUGGLES

COLUMBIA PICTURES

Broidy Hunts Showcases

During the two-month tour of Europe for which Monogram and Allied Artists president Steve Broidy sailed from New York last week, Broidy will devote attention to setting up contracts for "downtown showcases" for the companies' product in European capitals, the Monogram office here reported yesterday.



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Johnston Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

by Hugh Dalton and Sir Stafford Cripps in the talks he had with them during his recent visit here. Virtually he was told that the government would definitely proceed with the tax, whatever the consequences, unless some equally realistic proposal were placed before the Cabinet. The Ministers took the view that they could no longer risk being pushed around by events.

Cool-minded observers feel that there is nothing particularly conscious or designed in their activities. But the condition of bewilderment and frustration which currently besets the British nation makes it all the more difficult to evolve an alternative to the tax. Oliver Stanley, financial leader of the Conservative opposition, told the House of Commons that his party will support the tax, Stanley taking that view because no one to date has any suggestion of how to climb out of the present slough of despond.

Rank Fears Consequences of Tax

Forward-looking members of the industry all, in their respective perspectives, envisage the calamitous consequences of the tax. J. Arthur Rank admits to consternation at what may happen to his American adventures if the tax operates. He claims that his American earnings next year—although he diffidently refuses to give an estimate of those earnings—would at least equal the savings the tax would achieve. And he fears that those earnings would just evaporate if a crippling tax were inflicted on American imports.

Independent exhibitors are well aware that they will have an uncommonly bad time if American imports are cut. They will be impaled on the horns of a peculiar dilemma. They will have to reduce their screening time or play numerous revivals of British subjects. And they fear they will be called upon to pay enhanced rentals to British distributors.

CEA Officers Refuse to Protest

CEA's president, B. T. Davis, and secretary W. R. Fuller, had talks in Zurich with certain Americans, in the course of which they were asked to organize representations in Parliament. The CEA officers bowed out from the offer, saying that it was not for them to create opposition until they had something to complain about. They pointed out that the tax would not operate until October, by which time the government would doubtless have made another review of the dollar situation. Fuller did reiterate that one means of dollar-saving would be a governmentally-ordered maximum of a 33½ per cent film-rental. But that appears to be just an exhibition of tactical kite-flying, for how can one believe that British distributors will agree to a 33½ per cent ceiling to their rentals, even in the good cause of Anglo-American relations?

U. S. Extends Japan Tour to Film Heads

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—War Department officials are awaiting an answer from film industry heads who were informally invited to make a tour of Japan and U. S. bases in the Pacific.

A group of industry leaders made a similar trip in Europe last year at the invitation of the War Department.

KRS, NATKE Set 3 Negotiation Meets

LONDON, Aug. 4.—Additional meetings will be held Aug. 7, 12 and 20 between representatives of the Kinematograph Renters' Society and the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes who have been discussing draft proposals of a national agreement governing wages and conditions of the majority of the renters' employes. "Good progress" is reported made at the first meeting, held last week, in the reaching of the new agreement which will replace the interim pact signed last September.

This will be the second national agreement negotiated by NATKE which concluded a similar pact with the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association in July, 1946.

25% Freeze

(*Continued from page 1*)

the freeze to a year in the nature of an additional compromise.

In terms of dollars, the proposal means the American companies agree to cut their remittances from $68,000,000 annually to $51,000,000—or 75 per cent—and to forego $17,000,000—or 25 per cent—which would accumulate in Britain as an aid to her economy. Blocked funds would be withdrawn when England's position allows.

Whether or not the voluntarily-offered program will be acceptable to London appeared to be in the lap of complete uncertainty last night. Cables from Britain, for a number of days now, have indicated Prime Minister Attlee's program will strike for approximately a 50 per cent reduction in commodities and consumer goods from the dollar remittance countries. If this is borne out in Attlee's address in the House of Commons tomorrow, offer of the American companies will not prove acceptable. Whether or not the majors are prepared to go further is not known, but it was indicated, without confirmation, that an alternative to the agreed upon alternative is neither remote nor illogical.

Gravity of the situation was emphasized by the speed with which the company presidents reached their decision. Eric Johnston returned from his European trip on July 25, and met the MPA directors the following Wednesday. At a press interview late that afternoon, he stated no alternative plan had been worked out although a number of suggestions had been made. In the next two days, individual company heads were in steady conference. By the weekend, the decision had been reached.

Allport to Present Alternative In London in 'Next Few Days'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—Fay Allport, Motion Picture Association representative in London, will present the alternative plan some time in the "next few days," it was said here.

Int'l Writers Agreement

First screen writers to work under the new agreement among scenarists' guilds of the U. S., France and England are Edward Eliscu, Albert E. Lewin and Henry Myers, now working in Paris on the screenplay for Lou Bunin's color production, "Alice in Wonderland." Agreement provides for extension of American, French or British writers' union working standards to cover visiting writers from the other two countries.

See No Change in Egypt's Imports

By JACQUES PASCAL

CAIRO, July 30 (By Airmail).—"Imports of films will undergo no change so long as the present agreement between the Egyptian government and the eight major companies is valid," the film industry was told here by Me Aziz Beheiri, comptroller general of the import bureau. [illegible]e statement came after the al[illegible] complete cessation of business transactions in Egypt on July 15 when the country was no longer considered in the pound sterling area.

The film industry here was concerned as to whether foreign films were to be considered as "luxury products" and therefore be banned from entering the country, or whether they were to be considered as a necessity and would continue to be imported.

Beheiri's statement added that "nevertheless, the purchase of a film which requires a transfer of hard currencies will require a normal import license. This does not mean that the permit will be either granted or refused."

In other words, no restrictions will affect the importation of American films belonging to the companies with the Motion Picture Association. As for other foreign films, it appears that their importation into Egypt will be subject to certain difficulties unless a distribution system similar to that of the "big eight" is adopted.

Set Toronto Benefit For 'Variety Girl'

TORONTO, Aug. 4.—A benefit premiere of Paramount's "Variety Girl" will be held in Toronto on Aug. 27, with funds to be used for an institutional training school for Ontario's crippled children. J. J. Fitzgibbons, chief barker of the Toronto Variety Tent and president of Famous Players Canadian Corp. has donated the circuit's Imperial Theatre and has formed a committee of 30 to arrange for the premiere.

Gordon Lightstone, general manager of Canadian Paramount, and Ralph Dale of Canadian Odeon, are in charge of ticket sales.

Set Distribution for MGM Films in Spain

Distribution rights to eight M-G-M pictures for Spain and its possessions have been acquired by Cesareo Gonzales, producer and distributor in Spain. He is represented in New York by Antonio Mendez.

The eight films are: "Vacation from Marriage," "We Were Dancing," "H. M. Pulham, Esq.," "Beginning or the End," "Ramrod," "Man from Down Under," "Feminine Touch," and "Chocolate Soldier." Options were also acquired on "Rio Rita" and "Blackmail."

M-G-M to Release 3 In Sept., 2 in Oct.

M-G-M will release three pictures in September and two in October.

September releases will be "Song of the Thin Man," "The Unfinished Dance" and "The Arnelo Affair." October releases will be "Song of Love" and "Merton of the Movies."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"Duel in the Sun" is heading for a house record of $36,000 at Keith's. "Dear Ruth" is expected to more than double the house average at the Shubert. Grosses otherwise are fair. Weekend weather was rainy. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 5-8:

BANJO (RKO Radio)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **THE LAW COMES TO GUNSIGHT (Mono.).** Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)
BLACK GOLD (Mono.-Allied Artists)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Grand. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)
COPACABANA (UA)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $5,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—KEITH'S (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $36,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-75c: $5,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)
MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualed with **DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue).** Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)
OREGON TRAIL SCOUTS (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **WEB OF DANGER (Rep.).** Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)
POSSESSED (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

BALTIMORE

A cool break in the weather is helping grosses to maintain the slight gain they scored last week. New attractions are doing fairly well and holdovers are somewhat below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7:

THE CAPTIVE HEART (U-I)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)
KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—MAYFAIR (1,100) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)
LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,000)
LOST HONEYMOON (Eagle - Lion)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,500)
THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,500)
THE WEB (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)

ATLANTA

"Welcome Stranger," held over for third week playing to good business. Weather was hot and dry. Estimated receipts for week ending Aug. 6:

CHEYENNE (WB)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,700)
THE DARK HORSE (U-I) and MAN FROM RAINBOW VALLEY (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-37c). Gross: $5,200. (Average: $5,500)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)
POSSESSED (WB)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $7,900)

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

Thursday through Sunday, which points to $149,000 for the second week of the run. This is within inches of the record-breaking opening week's gross of $150,000.

"Crossfire" is likely to give the Rivoli a mighty big $51,000 in a second week at the Rivoli. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," with Abbott and Costello topping the stage bill at the Roxy, is on its way to an impressive $105,000 second week after amassing a huge $125,000 in its first week.

"Brute Force" is strong in its third week at the Criterion, estimated at $32,000. "Perils of Pauline," with Phil Spitalny's orchestra at the Paramount is good for $60,000 in a fourth and final week, and will be followed tomorrow by "Welcome Stranger."

See $78,000 for 'Hucksters'

The Capitol looks for about $78,000 for the third week of "The Hucksters," good business. Tony and Sally De Marco head the stage presentation. At the Strand, "Cry Wolf," with Freddie Martin's orchestra, is likely to ring up a moderate $39,000, while "Possessed," in its 16th week, probably will provide the Hollywood with $12,000, about fair. The Hollywood will become the Warner Theatre on Aug. 15, on which day Warners' "Life with Father" will open at the house.

One of the casualties of the week is the Broadway, where a combination of re-issues, "The Great John L.," and "Lady of Burlesque," seems destined to wind up a week with under $5,000.

The third week of "They Won't Believe Me" at the Palace is going well, with $18,000 in view. "Gunfighters" apparently will give the Victoria a profitable $14,000 for its second week. At the Globe, "Wyoming" is slow in a second week, estimated at $8,100, and will be followed on Thursday by "Northwest Outpost."

'Dillinger' and 'Mutiny' for $8,500

"Dillinger" and "Mutiny at the Big House" will wind up a first week at the Gotham with about $8,500, not too big. The double-reissue show will play three extra days, to be followed on Saturday by "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" and "Let Us Live."

A third and final week of "Slave Girl" should mean about $11,000 for the Criterion, unimportant business, and next at the house is "Green for Danger," to begin on Thursday. A mediocre $5,000 is evident for the first week of "100 Men and a Girl," at the Park. "Frieda" is slated to open at the Park Aug. 14. City Investing's Fulton Theatre, legitimate house now equipped for films, will bring in "Black Narcissus" Aug. 13. "Best Years of Our Lives" is headed for a $16,000 gross in its 37th week at the Astor.

M. P. Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

has been accomplished follow: Albany: Simon H. Fabian, trustee; S. J. Ullman, chairman; 17 committeemen. Atlanta: 17 committeemen, trustee and chairman to be elected soon. Boston: M. J. Mullen, trustee; H. Stoneman, chairman; 34 committeemen. Buffalo: Max M. Yellen, temporary trustee; George MacKenna, temporary chairman; 24 committeemen. Charlotte: H. F. Kincey, trustee and chairman; 15 committeemen. Chicago: A. Schoenstadt, trustee; Edward G. Zorn, chairman; 17 committeemen. Dallas: John Rowley, trustee and chairman; Sol Sachs, co-chairman; 17 committeemen. Des Moines: A. H. Blank, trustee; Nathan Sandler, chairman; 17 committeemen. Detroit: E. J. Hudson and Carl Buermele, temporary chairmen; 11 committeemen. Kansas City: J. A. Becker, trustee; Arthur Cole, chairman; 15 committeemen. Memphis: M. A. Lightman, Sr., trustee; Ed Sapinsley, chairman; 11 committeemen.

Also, Minneapolis: William Elson, trustee; Harold Field, chairman; 26 committeemen. New Haven: Dr. Jacob Fishman, trustee; Carl Goe, chairman; 22 committeemen. New Orleans: E. V. Richards, trustee; N. L. Carter, chairman; 17 committeemen. Omaha: R. R. Livingston, trustee; D. V. McLucas, chairman; 17 committeemen. Philadelphia: Jay Emanuel, trustee; Martin Ellis, chairman; 16 committeemen. Pittsburgh: M. A. Silver, trustee; chairman to be elected shortly; 18 committeemen. Salt Lake City: Sam Gillette, trustee; Don V. Tibbs, chairman; 17 committeemen. San Francisco: Jerry Zigmond, trustee and chairman; Ray Cooper, vice-chairman; 17 committeemen. St. Louis: Fred Wehrenberg, trustee; Joseph C. Ansell, chairman; 16 committeemen. Washington: Carter Barron, trustee; J. J. Payette, chairman; 17 committeemen.

Temporary chairmen who will soon conduct organizational meetings in their respective cities, follow: Herman H. Hunt, Cincinnati; Meyer Fine, Cleveland; Milas L. Hurley, Denver; Harold J. Fitzgerald, Milwaukee; Max Cohen, New York; C. B. Akers, Oklahoma City; Ted Gamble and O. J. Miller, Portland; I. M. Hone, Seattle. Cities which soon will have temporary chairmen are Indianapolis and Los Angeles.

Loot Hartford House

HARTFORD, Aug. 4.—Some $2,000 in cash was stolen from the Warner Brothers Regal Theatre, when thieves looted the office safe this morning.

Broadcast Purchases Associated Stock

All the capital stock of Associated Publishers, Inc., has been purchased by Broadcast Music, Inc. from Associated Muzak Corp. Involved in the purchase are the rights to thousands of world-famous compositions.

The announcement of the purchase was made in a joint statement by Carl Haverlin, president of B.M.I. and Harry Houghton, president of Associated Muzak.

Allied Artists

(*Continued from page* 1)

MPEA's ninth member company and the first distributor to join the export organization since it was chartered early last year by the eight original sponsoring companies.

The effective date is Sept. 1, 1947. Allied Artists also will bring into MPEA all Monogram product.

Allied Artists' alignment with MPEA was first considered during a series of talks carried on in New York and Hollywood between Johnston, Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and Allied Artists, and Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram's international organization, some time ago. Final decision to join was reached last week before Broidy and Ritchey left for Europe, in conferences here with Irving Maas, MPEA vice president and general manager, and Francis S. Harmon, MPEA vice president.

The affiliation of Allied Artists with MPEA is seen as bolstering the hand of the American industry in its distribution activities in the eleven countries in which it is now operating, and in the two additional countries (Yugoslavia and the U.S.S.R.) with whom agreements have yet to be made. It further extends MPEA control in the matter of product selectivity. A group of Allied pictures, headed by "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," is now being readied for distribution in a number of countries.

MPTOA Units

(*Continued from page* 1)

results of his unit's vote so that national officers who already have approved the merger, may act accordingly.

Officers and directors of ATA and MPTOA, upon approval by field units, will meet to elect officers and determine policies for the new organization, now named Theatre Owners of America, at the organizational convention, Sept. 19-20, at the Hotel Shoreham, Washington, D. C.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
NEW YORK CITY TRADE SHOWING
Of SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S Presentation of
"THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY"
ASTOR THEATRE
BROADWAY AND 45th ST., NEW YORK, N. Y.
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12 at 10:30 A.M.

SAG Action Awaited On Chadwick Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 4.—The Screen Actors Guild was in session tonight considering, among other items, the proposal advanced by Independent Motion Picture Producers Association president I. E. Chadwick for establishing a "separate category" on wage scales for pictures budgeted under $100,000.

Although Chadwick said that "good progress" had been made in negotiations with SAG, and that the board had several alternative plans before it, he declined to predict the outcome. SAG spokesmen also withheld speculation.

Meanwhile, the SAG board mailed ballots to its membership presenting two questions to be answered by Aug. 7 when the union members will meet in Pan-Pacific Auditorium. The first question concerns ratification of the contract negotiated with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. The second seeks authority for the SAG board to order a strike against any employing producer who does not sign a SAG contract by Aug. 22.

Spokesmen for SAG, insisting that the board has no wish to flourish the strike authority as a threat, pointed out that SAG normally has pacts with many producers in New York and elsewhere who are not included in AMPP or SIMPP memberships.

Hartley Present as Coast Hearings Open

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 4.—With Fred A. Hartley, Jr., co-author of the Taft-Hartley law, present as an observer, the House Labor Subcommittee today opened hearings expected to run for three weeks. Irving G. McCann, the subcommittee's attorney, devoted the first day to questioning American Federation of Musicians officials in connection with charges made by Earl Carroll in Washington.

Hartley explained that his presence was due to reports reaching him in Washington indicating that practices in violation of the recently-adopted labor law were in force here.

McCann indicated that the film studio strike and jurisdictional disputes in general would be looked into next, possibly starting in two or three days.

Edward E. Heller, 61

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 4.—Edward Ernest Heller, 61, branch manager of Kay Film Co. here, died Aug. 1 after a short illness. Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Mary Jane Richards, and two sons, Richard P. Heller, of Martinsville, Va., and Edward J. Heller, Jr., of Miami, Fla.

Mrs. Mary Dillon Walsh

YONKERS, Aug. 4.—A requiem mass will be held here tomorrow at St. Peter's Church for Mary Dillon Walsh, 49, wife of George C. Walsh, one of the owners of the Strand Theatre here. Interment will be in Gates of Heaven Cemetery, Hawthorne, N. Y.

Video Unit Names Olson

Richard C. Olson has been appointed Los Angeles representative for United States Television Manufacturing Corp. Charles W. Koehn will cover New York.

Reviews

"High Tide"

(*Monogram*) *Hollywood, Aug. 4*

A FAIRLY slick murder mystery, with its jigsaw puzzle pieces finally fitted together by dialogue rather than action, and bringing Lee Tracy back to the screen after a long absence, this one will pay its way, either shown solo or double billed. The nicely plotted surprise finish, done mainly in dialogue, will baffle the majority of the nimble witted among audiences who love to call the turn on a mystery film.

Saying that dialogue, most of which is smartly written, is a prime mover of the plot's advancement does not mean that the picture is entirely short on action. There's plenty of it, interlarded with gunplay that puts four members of the cast into a state of rigor mortis. Chief criticism would be that the romance angle is in too low a key, even the finish leaving it anybody's guess as to what happens between Don Castle and Anabel Shaw. They spar sentimentally throughout, but never even exchange a hand pat.

It is good to see Lee Tracy in action again, with his brisk movement, staccato chatter and undenied acting ability making his role of a crusading city editor stand out above all the others in a more than adequate cast. Don Castle, as an ex-reporter, gives Tracy a close run for the acting honors, with Miss Shaw, Julie Bishop, as a philandering wife and Regis Toomey, in a police inspector's role, turning in top performances as the supporting players. Others doing able bits are Douglas Walton, Francis Ford, Anthony Warde, Argentina Brunetti and Wilson Wood.

Jack Wrather has not skimped on the production and thereby considerably increases his stature as one of Monogram's young producers. He is well assisted in this one by John Reinhardt's directorial efforts.

As a city editor with a lust to grab the ownership of the paper on which he works, Tracy wages a fake vice crusade in connivance with the city's underworld leader. When he manages to murder the owner, bump himself up a bit and blame it on the mobsters, his well-planned plot seems to be working on schedule. He overplays his hand, however, when, to make it all seem more circumspect, he hires a smart, ex-reporter of his paper to act as his bodyguard. After sending several other mortal obstacles in his way to the morgue, he plans the same fate for his bodyguard, to cover his tracks. He winds up with a broken back in a wrecked car on a beach, helpless as the tide rolls in.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

W.J.McG.

"The Great Dawn"

(*Superfilm*)

AN opportunity to behold the conducting technique of Pierino Gamba, the nine-year-old "pocket Toscanini," is afforded in this Italian-made feature. Considering the budget limitations, the production, directed by G. M. Scotese, results in a workmanlike and fairly engrossing job. An exploitation angle for art theatre showmen to work with is the featuring of such music as Beethoven's "Fifth Symphony," Schubert's "Moment Musical" and "Unfinished Symphony," and Rossini's "William Tell Overture."

The story, set in Rome, centers around a family of three people and the struggles of the head of the little unit, a composer, to gain recognition. He runs off to Paris, but his mission proves a failure. Meanwhile the musical gifts of his son, Pierino Gamba, are discovered by a neighborhood priest, who diligently trains the boy and eventually brings about his successful debut. Before the happy ending, there is the opposition of a music-hating, commercial-minded grandfather which the priest has to overcome.

A Scalera Film production, others in the cast are Renee Faure and Rossano Brazzi. English sub-titles are provided for a dialogue that runs from the realistic to the risque.

Running time, 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

John D. Redmond Dies in Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 4.—John D. Redmond, 42, Minneapolis district manager for RKO theatres, died of a heart attack today at his home here. Redmond whose office covered Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska, moved his headquarters to Minneapolis from Omaha last January.

He was born in New York and attended St. Canasius College there. He entered the theatre business in New York, continued his career on the West Coast and later became general manager at Chicago of the Mort H. Singer Theatres. He is survived by his wife, Florence, and a daughter, Sheila.

Altec Renewal

E. J. Hudson, president of United Detroit Theatres Corp., has renewed with Altec Service for the 21 United houses.

Urges Exhibitors to See Congressmen

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 4.—Exhibitors are urged by Stanley Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, to see the nine Minnesota Congressmen and two Senators, concerning elimination of the 20 per cent Federal entertainment tax.

Kane, in a bulletin to exhibitors, suggested that since the legislators are taking inventory at home in the grass roots, exhibitors should discuss film problems with them.

Tradeshow Disney Film

RKO Radio will hold trade screenings of Walt Disney's "Fun and Fancy Free" in its various exchange centers on Tuesday, Aug. 19, with the exception of Atlanta and Des Moines where it will be shown the following day. The New York screenings will be held in the Normandie Theatre at 10:30 A.M. on Aug. 19.

To Start Paramount Campaign Meetings

Plans for Paramount's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive will be discussed at a series of meetings to be attended by George A. Smith, Western division manager, and Harold Wirthwein, assistant West coast district manager at Los Angeles and captain of the drive. The celebration starts Aug. 31 and runs to Nov. 29.

Smith left Los Angeles yesterday for Des Moines, where a meeting will be held tomorrow. Other sessions will be held in St. Louis on Thursday and Friday, Kansas City on Aug. 11 and 12, and Omaha, on Aug 13. These meetings will be attended by district manager Ralph Libeau of Kansas City. Hugh Braly, district manager with headquarters in Los Angeles, leaves Aug. 13 to attend meetings with Wirthwein in Denver, Salt Lake City, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. Final meeting of the series will be held Aug. 27 and 28 in Los Angeles.

Thomas', PRC

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion of PRC by Eagle-Lion, also a Pathe affiliate.

Robert Benjamin, general counsel and a director of both Pathe Industries and Eagle-Lion, is scheduled to leave New York for the Coast on Thursday to discuss details of the merger with E-L president Arthur Krim and production head Bryan Foy.

The merger is expected to be effected within the next two months. Eagle-Lion, it is said, will take over the low-budget production activities of PRC while continuing with its own production program. Since negotiations for the merger have not been finalized, it could not be stated whether the PRC production trademark will remain to identify future low-budget E-L productions as such. However, a Pathe Industries spokesman said yesterday that he believes no vestige whatever of PRC will remain after the merger. For some time PRC's and Eagle-Lion's physical distribution has been a single entity. Merger is expected to include taking over by E-L of all PRC exchanges and personnel. Sales forces would be blended, with Alfred Schwalberg, E-L vice-president in charge of distribution, directing operations.

Merger Negotiations Are Under Way, Krim Admits

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 4.—Negotiations are underway leading toward termination of Harry H. Thomas' contract as PRC president, and the absorption of PRC by Eagle-Lion, it was confirmed here today by Arthur Krim, E-L president. Krim said the merger is expected to be finalized within 60 days.

Hilgers Joins PRC

ATLANTA, Aug. 4.—Clair Hilgers, formerly district manager of Republic in Atlanta, has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as Dallas branch manager.

Horstemeier with PRC

Herbert Henry Horstemeier has joined Producers Releasing Corp. as office manager in the Cleveland branch, where he will work under branch manager Mark Goldman.

REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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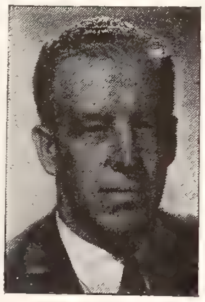
62. NO. 26 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 1947 TEN CENTS

Launch New 20th Formula Next Monday

Smith Reveals National Application at NCA Meet

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 5.—Starting next Monday, 20th Century-Fox will offer in all U. S. exchange territories its small-town, sub-subsequent run and "problem" theatres sales plan which was originally disclosed at the convention of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey in Atlantic City on June 25 last. This national launching of the program, presaged in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on July 22, was formally announced today by Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager,


Andrew Smith, Jr.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Shorts Cameramen Ask $85 Increase

"Opening gun" negotiations in the short subjects cameramen's bid for a blanket $85-per-week pay increase took place here yesterday between Walter A. Lang, business representative of Local 644 of the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industries, IATSE and company short subjects editors.

The cameramen now receive $165 per week. They are seeking $250, retroactive for two years.

Lang described yesterday's meeting as a preliminary discussion. He said

(*Continued on page 6*)

A. Frudenfeld, RKO Manager, to Retire

The retirement, on Sept. 1, of Arthur Frudenfeld, present division manager of RKO theatres in Cincinnati and Dayton, was announced here yesterday by Sol A. Schwartz, RKO Theatres general manager.

Frudenfeld has spent 45 years in almost every branch of show business, with 26 years with the RKO circuit. He joined RKO in 1921 at the Or-

(*Continued on page 7*)

TOA Policy of 'Wait And See' Adopted By Loew's and RKO

Loew's and RKO Theatres will await the outcome of the organizational convention of the proposed Theatre Owners of America before either makes a decision on actively supporting the new association.

The two circuits are primarily interested in the scope of activities to be approved for TOA in the event its organization is ratified by the members of American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, which would join to form the new organization.

Loew's and RKO resigned from ATA when the latter sought to enter the industry anti-trust case as an intervenor.

The legal aspects of any position taken by TOA, if ratified, in the trust suit, as well as any constitutional authorization for taking part in trade practices would be the determining

(*Continued on page 7*)

O'Dwyer To Name New Films Surveyor

The new New York City director of labor relations who will be named by Mayor William O'Dwyer to succeed retiring director Edward C. Maguire, will continue with the study of

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA Producers Seek Management Voice

Hollywood, Aug. 5.—Twenty United Artists producers were in conference today at the Enterprise studio, under the chairmanship of David Loew, on plans for forming a non-profit organization designed to give producers distributing through UA representation in company management. With many details still to be ironed out, the plan in substance was outlined to Gradwell Sears prior to his departure. Loew said the meetings so far have been for the purpose of canvassing possibilities and viewpoints.

London Gets U. S. 'Frozen' Fund Plan

LONDON, Aug. 5.—The American industry's proposal that 25 per cent of its British distribution revenue remain frozen here for a six months period, after which the then existing situation would be reviewed for possible changes, was forwarded to the Chancellor of the Exchequer today.

It is understood that a secondary proposal, details of which could not be learned, also was received from the Motion Picture Association in Washington to be transmitted to the Treas-

(*Continued on page 7*)

WB Plans Top Production In 1947-48: Jack Warner

CHICAGO, Aug. 5.—Predicting continued prosperity for the motion picture industry if it operates on a basis of sound peace-time values instead of coasting on war momentum, Jack L. Warner, vice-president in charge of production, disclosed today that the Warner Brothers studios will maintain a capacity production schedule through 1947-48. He said that a balanced program of feature pictures will be selected from 47 story properties now being prepared.

Jack Warner

Addressing the annual WB sales convention here, Warner also announced that the new season will be inaugurated with the release of "Life With Father." "The Voice of the Turtle" will be another release.

Warner held that a revival of showmanship in exhibition, and the intelligent cutting of production costs while maintaining an upward trend in quality of product will be more than sufficient to offset the threats of a serious recession. He advocated hard work all along the line to curb the soaring costs of production.

"The spree is over," Warner said. "Once and for all we must forget about the artificial war boom times. Contrary to certain foreign beliefs, this country doesn't need wars to create prosperity. Our own motion picture business built itself to great-

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA Officially Elects Sears To Presidency

Kelly Also Installed; Production Program Set

Gradwell L. Sears yesterday was formally elected president and a director of United Artists at a board meeting here. At the same time Edward C. Raftery formally tended his resignation from the presidential post but will continue, temporarily, as a director. Raftery will give his full time to the law firm of O'Brien, Raftery, Driscoll & Lawler, of which he is a senior member, and which remains as counsel to the company.

Gradwell Sears

The board also officially installed

(*Continued on page 6*)

Holland Lifts Curb On American Films

Marking the first important reversal in the rising trend of post-war barriers placed on the distribution of American films abroad, the Netherlands government has decided to eliminate all restrictions of playing time on product imported from this country.

Effective immediately, American films, heretofore limited to 28 weeks per year, are now authorized to run their full course in Holland's theatre outlets, on an unlimited playing time

(*Continued on page 7*)

Moritz, Hunt Head MPF in Cincinnati

CINCINNATI, Aug. 5.—Allan S. Moritz, Columbia branch manager, was elected Motion Picture Foundation national trustee at a meeting of 35 industry members who gathered at the Netherlands Plaza Hotel, here, to organize a Cincinnati area MPF unit. Circuit operator Herman H. Hunt, who had been MPF temporary chairman, was elected permanent area

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, will fly to Hollywood tomorrow from New York.

•

BETTY SMITH, daughter of FRANK SMITH, Paramount branch manager in Salt Lake City, and JACK BRALY, son of HUGH BRALY, Paramount district manager here, were married last week at the Little Church of the Flowers, Forest Lawn.

•

DAVID GOLDING, recently appointed publicity director for Korda Prod. in London, arrived on the *SS Queen Mary* yesterday and expects to remain here about five weeks.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for Detroit.

•

BERNARD G. KRANZE, assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal-International, left here yesterday for Detroit.

•

HERBERT STOTHART, M-G-M studio musical director, arrived here yesterday from the Coast, accompanied by his wife and their daughter.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M short subject sales manager, has returned to the home office from a tour of the South and Midwest.

•

SAM DEMBOW, JR., head of Producers Service Corp., is due back here from the Coast at the end of the week.

•

PAUL GRAETZ, producer, is in town from the Coast en route to Paris.

Schneider to Tour WB Offices Abroad

Samuel Schneider, vice-president of Warner Brothers, accompanied by Mrs. Schneider, will sail Friday on the *SS Queen Mary* for England on a seven-week tour of WB branch offices in Great Britain and the Continent.

Schneider will be in London when Arthur S. Abeles, Jr., former manager for WB in Argentina, arrives to assume his new post as assistant to Max Milder, managing director of Warner operations in Great Britain.

From England, Schneider will go to France, where he will confer with Joseph S. Hummel, the company's European general manager, then to Belgium, Italy and Switzerland. Schneider will make a thorough survey of foreign conditions.

$150,000 RKO Blaze

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 5.—A fire of undetermined origin last night swept the RKO Radio ranch lot at Encino, destroying $150,000 worth of sets, including several new ones constructed for "Miracle of the Bells" and "Your Red Wagon."

Heineman Analyzes Midwest as 'Tough'

Proneness of some Midwestern independent exhibitors to disparage British pictures has been greeted with mingled indifference and resentment by William Heineman, vice-president of the Universal-Rank organization, here. The reception given British pictures by Midwestern film-goers, Heineman said, can be compared with the reception they give many of the finer American productions. The Midwest is "tough territory," by and large, for all but outdoor action films, he holds.

Most recent Midwestern assault against British films has come from Leo F. Wolcott, board chairman of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, who, in the organization's current membership bulletin, asserts English films always have been "poison" in the Midwest's small towns. "Apparently made for the big cities and the 'art' theatres, they won't get a dime in the grass roots theatres," Wolcott writes. "Hollywood's poor B pictures are better than British triple-A's for us," he maintains, adding: "Small town exhibitors should certainly not buy foreign films at any price."

Such assertions come as no surprise to Heineman, the Universal-Rank executive has commented somewhat resentfully. U-I has booked J. Arthur Rank productions into many theatres in the Midwest and those pictures are doing as well as can be expected at this time, Heineman remarked, indicating that he believes their box-office performance in that territory generally will improve steadily. Meanwhile, he added, British films are making highly satisfactory box-office showings in Eastern and Far Western areas.

Opponents of Tax in St. Paul Delay Vote

ST. PAUL, Aug. 5.—Plan of the City Council to levy a 10 per cent tax against theatre and other admissions in order to raise funds to keep the public schools open met with such strong opposition at today's Council meeting that a final vote on the measure was laid over until Thursday. At the Council meeting, it developed that 350 individuals had written the Council urging the tax proposal to be dropped while only four approved the plan.

Councilman Mortensen, declaring that film theatres were already overburdened, moved for elimination of theatres from the tax list, but the motion lost as did his amendment to exclude all admissions of 20 cents or under from the tax.

Cowdin to Europe

J. Cheever Cowdin, board chairman of Universal-International, left here last night by air for London to confer with J. Arthur Rank and to tour the Continent for first-hand knowledge of conditions abroad. Cowdin originally had planned the trip for later this month but decided to leave earlier because of the economic situation in England.

Reveal $21,000 Gift To Variety Clubs

Hollywood, Aug. 5.—In a final report on the 11th annual convention of the International Variety Clubs, Charles Skouras, convention chairman, revealed that a gift of $21,000 was made to the group. He simultaneously disclosed that Tent 25, host of the recent convention, had accrued a fund of $68,500 to be utilized in its Southern California charity activities.

Golden Sees Finnish Industry Struggling

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The Finnish film industry is currently going through difficulties due to rawstock shortages, high taxation, small profits, lack of up-to-date equipment and replacement parts, and other factors, according to a Commerce Department study.

Prepared by motion picture consultant Nathan D. Golden on the basis of a report from the Helsinki legation, the study says that the "financial standing of the domestic producers has continued to depreciate." Many smaller firms, it adds, have not even tried to make feature films because the commercial risk is considered too great, and have concentrated on short subjects, while the larger producers have been able to keep up only a limited output of feature films.

U. S. films enjoy the highest percentage and the greatest popularity of all films exhibited, according to Golden, and this condition is expected to continue. Adventure stories and intellectual comedies enjoy long runs, the report says, and the director as well as the stars are regarded as important for a film's popularity. During a six-month period, from August 2, 1946 to January 3, 1947, 83 U. S. films were shown in Helsinki or approximately 62.9 per cent of all films shown. The figure is slightly lower for all of Finland, Golden indicates.

Atlantic City Group Fights Theatre Tax

ATLANTIC CITY, Aug. 5.—The Atlantic City Amusement Men's Association is protesting collection of a three-cent tax on lower-price theatre tickets. The tax is levied in compliance with the resort's luxury tax law.

The association says that the tax on admissions often represents not three per cent, but six per cent. A return to three per cent tax on the 50-cent range tickets is sought by the association.

Mayor Altman says any revision must be studied by the legal department of the city. It has been previously stated that the luxury tax is not three per cent when bases are on less than dollar purchases. These are payable according to a made-up schedule. In any event, the tax is being passed on to the payee.

Newsreel Parade

THE Hughes probe in Washington is a newsreel spotlight in the current release. Also shown is the birthday celebration of the U. S. Air Force and Lt. Gen. Wedemeyer's visit to China. Sports and human interest stories round out the newsreels. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 98—U. S. Air Force celebrates 40th birthday. [illegible] committee hears testimony on Hughes probe. Lt. Gen. Wedemeyer on mission to China. Japanese crown prince in school. Sports: horse racing, teen-age yachting, speed boat test. Canadian girls learn self-defense.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 297—Elliott Roosevelt, star witness at Senate inquiry. Air Force celebrates its 40th birthday. Villagers hail Pontiff on vacation. Jap crown prince champ speller. New defense tactics for girls in Canada. Teen-ager's yachting classic.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 98—Republican Party bandwagon gets rolling. Swimming: National AAU final. Tennis. The Hughes probe.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 101—Lt. Gen. Wedemeyer visits China. MacArthur and Evatt confer. DeGaulle in Brittany tour. Sutton sisters at tennis. Elliott Roosevelt testifies. Tiny sail craft in race.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 62—The Hughes probe. Air Force honored on birthday.

To Discuss DC Free Films on Aug. 14

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—District of Columbia Commissioners will meet Aug. 14 with representatives of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association of Metropolitan Washington to discuss the association's protest over the showing of free educational films in district recreational centers.

An association letter to the Commission, asking the hearing, said the films are being shown on district property in competition with private theatres, whose owners pay a property tax.

The films, which have been shown in previous summers, were resumed this year in mid-July and are slated to continue until the end of August. It is estimated that from 200 to 500 persons attend each performance.

Carroll on Stand in Coast Labor Probe

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 5.—The House Labor Subcommittee investigating union practices in Hollywood continued to concentrate on the American Federation of Musicians today, with Earl Carroll, principal complainant at recent Washington hearings, announcing from the stand that he and AFM Local No. 47 have composed their differences satisfactorily.

Although Screen Actors Guild president Ronald Reagan and executive secretary John Dales are among witnesses to be heard tomorrow, the general belief held here is that the House group will not go deeply into studio labor practices until the early part of next week.

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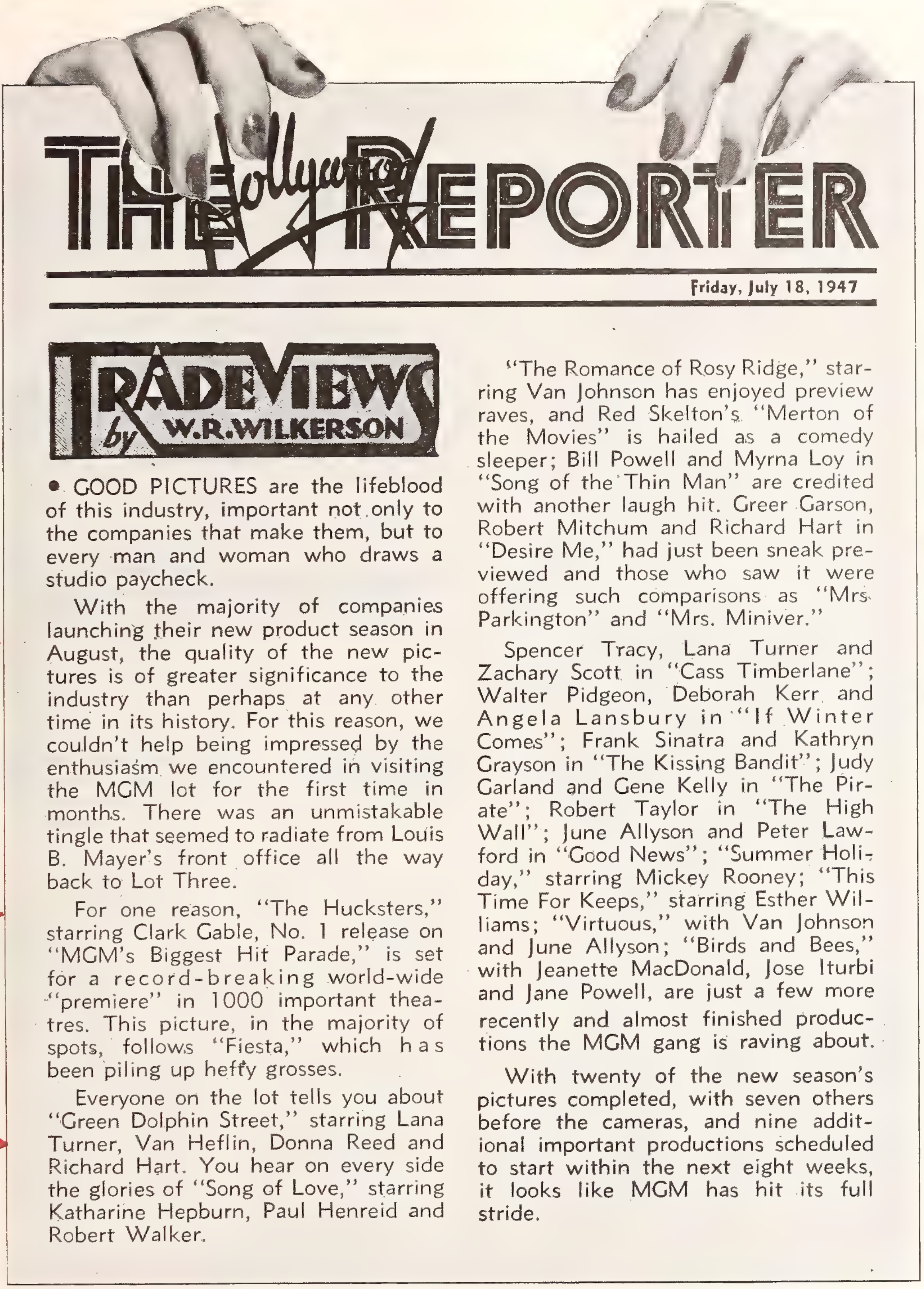


THE Hollywood REPORTER

Friday, July 18, 1947

TRADE VIEWS
by W.R. WILKERSON

• GOOD PICTURES are the lifeblood of this industry, important not only to the companies that make them, but to every man and woman who draws a studio paycheck.

With the majority of companies launching their new product season in August, the quality of the new pictures is of greater significance to the industry than perhaps at any other time in its history. For this reason, we couldn't help being impressed by the enthusiasm we encountered in visiting the MGM lot for the first time in months. There was an unmistakable tingle that seemed to radiate from Louis B. Mayer's front office all the way back to Lot Three.

For one reason, "The Hucksters," starring Clark Gable, No. 1 release on "MGM's Biggest Hit Parade," is set for a record-breaking world-wide "premiere" in 1000 important theatres. This picture, in the majority of spots, follows "Fiesta," which has been piling up hefty grosses.

Everyone on the lot tells you about "Green Dolphin Street," starring Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed and Richard Hart. You hear on every side the glories of "Song of Love," starring Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid and Robert Walker.

"The Romance of Rosy Ridge," starring Van Johnson has enjoyed preview raves, and Red Skelton's "Merton of the Movies" is hailed as a comedy sleeper; Bill Powell and Myrna Loy in "Song of the Thin Man" are credited with another laugh hit. Greer Garson, Robert Mitchum and Richard Hart in "Desire Me," had just been sneak previewed and those who saw it were offering such comparisons as "Mrs. Parkington" and "Mrs. Miniver."

Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner and Zachary Scott in "Cass Timberlane"; Walter Pidgeon, Deborah Kerr and Angela Lansbury in "If Winter Comes"; Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson in "The Kissing Bandit"; Judy Garland and Gene Kelly in "The Pirate"; Robert Taylor in "The High Wall"; June Allyson and Peter Lawford in "Good News"; "Summer Holiday," starring Mickey Rooney; "This Time For Keeps," starring Esther Williams; "Virtuous," with Van Johnson and June Allyson; "Birds and Bees," with Jeanette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi and Jane Powell, are just a few more recently and almost finished productions the MGM gang is raving about.

With twenty of the new season's pictures completed, with seven others before the cameras, and nine additional important productions scheduled to start within the next eight weeks, it looks like MGM has hit its full stride.

M-G-M does it all summer long! →

"Hucksters" tremendous everywhere →

Two of Road-show size! →

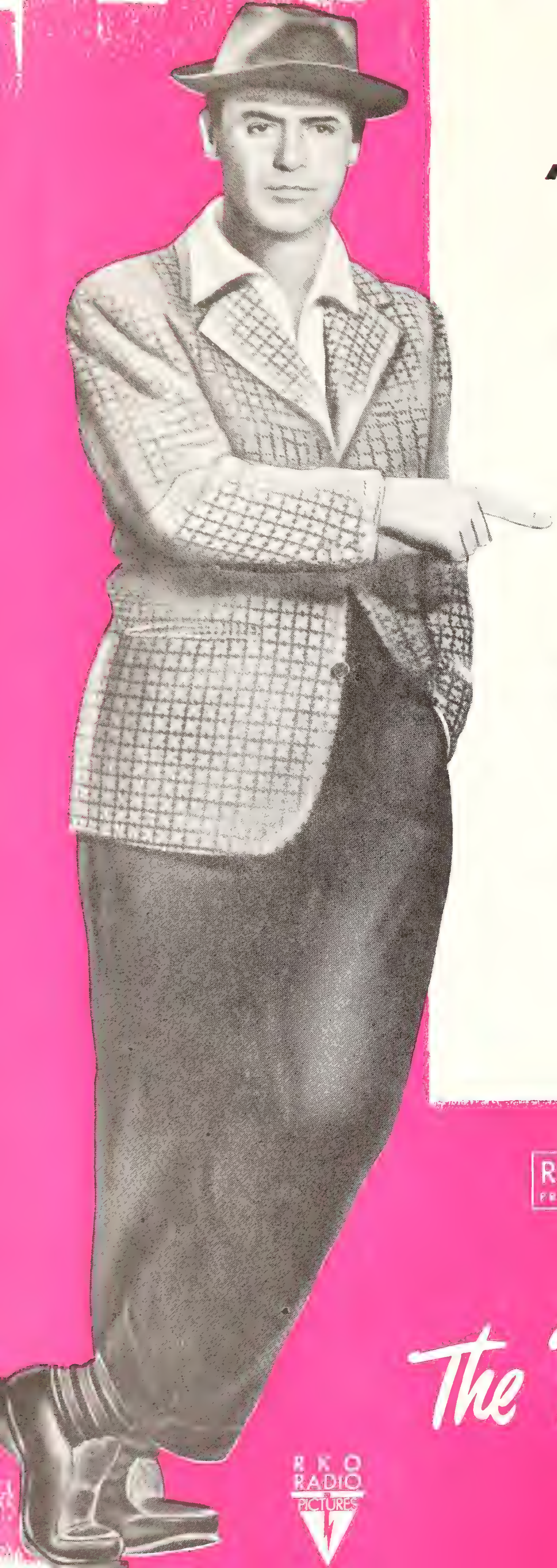
← Van's best yet!

← Two swell comedies!

← Greer's greatest!

← Sure it's "M-G-M's Biggest Hit Parade!" One after another!

"Here's what it says in a nutshell"



"The Bachelo

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St. Mary's" a

Radio City M

RKO PRESENTS

CARY GRANT · MYRNA LOY

The Bachelor and the B

with RUDY VALLEE · RAY COLLINS · HARR

A DORE SCHARY PRODUCTION · Directed by IRVING RE

RKO RADIO PICTURES

and the Bobby-Soxer"

cord-breaking

ks of "The Bells of

nd "Notorious" at

usic Hall!

SHIRLEY

TEMPLE

by-Soxer

AVENPORT · JOHNNY SANDS

Original Story and Screenplay by Sidney Sheldon

20th Formula

(*Continued from page* 1)

at a meeting of the North-Central Allied Independent Theatre Owners at the Hotel Nicollet, here.

The plan, designed to help small-town theatres with low grossing possibilities; sub-subsequent runs in large cities or towns, and so-called "problem" theatres with high expenses and low grossing possibilities, entails the offering to exhibitors the company's best pictures to be played on percentage on a scale deal starting at 15 per cent of the gross and going up to 40 per cent of the gross, with 50-50 over the 40 per cent figure. Exhibitors will be offered not less than two pictures out of each full season's product and not more than five pictures on percentage. All other pictures, excluding roadshows such as "Forever Amber" and "Captain From Castile," will be offered at a flat rental price, according to Smith.

The plan has been tested in the New Haven territory since June 30. Smith said that as a result of this test he was convinced that it will accomplish its stated objectives. At the Jersey Allied meeting Smith said: "We recognize the problem of the small exhibitor operating a sub-subsequent run in a large city or operating in a small town with low grossing possibilities. We believe that small exhibitors need help and we will give it to them. Also there is in every territory a small number of theatres which are problem theatres. They operate at high expense and have low grossing possibilities. We believe these theatres need help and we will give it to them regardless of who owns them."

In connection with the plan, the company has stated it will expect preferred playing time on percentage pictures "if they merit it." Smith said that in working out the scale deal the company will require a statement of expenses certified by accredited accountants and the first step in the making of the deal will be for the exhibitor to present such a statement.

The company's detailed explanation of the plan follows:

At 15 per cent of the gross, the scale deal will be based on a break-even point, meaning that at this point, the theatre will have its expenses and 20th will have 15 per cent of the gross. The scale will go up in steps of 2½ per cent with a profit equal to the percentage paid at each level. For instance, at 17½ per cent of the gross as film rental, the theatre will have a profit of 17½ per cent of the film rental. At 20 per cent of the gross as film rental, the theatre will have 20 per cent of the film rental as profit. And so on up to the 35 per cent level, where the theatre is to have 50 per cent of the film rental as profit. The scale deal offers 50 per cent of the film rental as profit at the 37½ level and 50 per cent of the film rental as profit, at the 40 per cent level; and then the company and exhibitor share dollar for dollar over the 40 per cent level.

Smith said today that he chose to make formal announcement for the nation-wide application of the plan at the NCA meeting because of "the great interest which Benjamin Berger, NCA president, took in this plan since it was first presented."

Since the plan was announced last June, it has been publicly endorsed by Sam Carver, president of the Michigan Independent Theatre Owners, by the Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States and other exhibitor leaders and organizations, 20th states. Trueman T. Rembusch, president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, the company reports also, has termed the plan "a step in the right direction if we are ever to achieve better inter-industry relations."

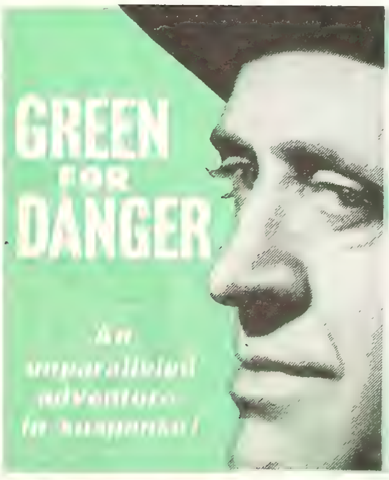
According to Smith the plan would affect 6,000 out of 14,000 possibilities nationally, while 85 theatres of 599 possibilities "in" the Minneapolis area will benefit by the new policy. In answer to inquiries, he said the number of theatres affected "might well be" increased after the plan goes into operation.

A consensus of opinion by 50 independent, city and out-of-town exhibitors at the Smith luncheon seemed to lean heavily in favor of the new 20th-Fox sales policy.

Berger described the plan as a step in the right direction, but added that Smith's reference to a limited number of theatres as distressed situations "doesn't mean a thing" since most of the small town houses are in distress from percentage pictures.

NCA Board Backs Berger In Action on Probe Ad

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 5.—The NCA board today authorized NCA president Ben Berger to use his own judgment in placing an advertisement in Washington newspapers calling upon President Truman and Congress to investigate the film industry. Berger has withheld publication of the advertisement, awaiting an indication of "any tendency of the producers to take care of the little fellow."


GREEN FOR DANGER
An unparalleled adventure in suspense!

"It makes other pictures look like pillow fights in a girls' dormitory!"—*Said Showman Billy Rose in his nationally-syndicated column.*

Moritz, Hunt

(*Continued from page* 1)

chairman, and 11 committeemen were named. Ralph Kinsler was elected area secretary.

Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association, was guest speaker at the meeting. Hunt has called another meeting for Sept. 9, at which plans for the unit's activities will be completed.

Committeemen elected were: Moritz, Hunt, Kinsler, John Krebs, Arthur Mannheimer, L. J. Bugie, Guthrie Crowe, Jack R. Keegan, Phil Chakeres, Charles R. Mitchell and Maurice Chase.

UA Elects Sears

(*Continued from page* 1)

Arthur W. Kelly as executive vice-president with complete supervision over all foreign distribution matters. Kelly was given the same autonomy in managing operations abroad as Sears was afforded over the domestic market.

Arthur W. Kelly

The realignment makes Sears the ninth director of the company and thus it appears he is empowered to cast the deciding vote on any issue. Of the eight incumbents, four represent Charles Chaplin and four sit in for Mary Pickford, co-owners of the company.

Further board action authorized a three-year employment contract for Kelly. Initial presidential pact for Sears was not completed at the meeting; instead, he will continue under his current agreement as distribution vice-president.

$5,000,000 Rotating Fund

Yesterday's meeting additionally approved, officially, the company's financial participation in production with investments to range from "second money" up to a full 100 per cent. It is held likely UA will release only product in which it has some monetary concern. Interests in studio space also will be involved.

In support of this, the board empowered management to negotiate a rotating fund of $5,000,000. Banks both in New York and on the Coast already have expressed willingness to participate in financing UA's precedent-breaking production policy.

The production will be taken up in more detail at a continuation of yesterday's session at the home office today. George Bagnall, UA's Hollywood vice-president and principal liaison with its producers, will attend the session today.

Meanwhile, reports that either Walter Gould, foreign sales manager, or David Coplan, United Kingdom distribution head, would withdraw from the company received no substantiation from either the directorate or management. With Kelly given supervision over foreign distribution it is assumed that any such changes would be up to him and it has been ascertained he has taken no action on the matter as yet.

Sears' Industry Role

Sears was born in Hannibal, Mo., on Jan. 30, 1897. After World War I he became associated with World Film Co., New York, and later with Republic Distributing Corp. In 1920 he joined First National as a salesman and advanced to the post of Southern and Western division manager. He went to Warner Brothers in 1931 as sales manager in the South and West. In 1937 he was appointed general sales manager, which post he held until 1941 when he moved to United Artists as general sales manager. He was elected a UA vice-president in 1944.

Kelly had an assortment of assignments in England leading to a production post here with First National. Subsequently he became Eastern representative for Charles Chaplin, a friend of long standing. He later became treasurer and vice-president of United Artists. He was named foreign department manager in 1925 and in 1941 was given supervision over domestic sales. He resigned in 1944 to become president of Eagle-Lion Pictures and two years later became president of Signet Films.

To England About Aug. 22

Kelly probably will study the entire situation before his departure for England about Aug. 22. The purpose of his trip is to recoup lost playing time and perhaps gain new bookings in England.

UA board members representing Miss Pickford are: Arnold Grant, Franklin Cole, Vitalis Challif and Raftery. Chaplin's representatives are: Charles Schwartz, Herbert Jacoby, E. Claude Mills and Kelly. The voting on all counts was unanimous. Cole, now out of town, was the only director not present yesterday.

Sear's Promotion is 'Gratifying': Schaefer

George J. Schaefer, vice-president in charge of distribution for Enterprise, yesterday congratulated Gradwell Sears on his elevation as president of United Artists.

Schaefer declared: "The elevation of Grad Sears to the presidency of United Artists is highly gratifying to the entire Enterprise organization. I think I speak authoritatively when I say that all other independent producing organizations in the United Artists fold are equally elated at the turn of events.

"Mr. Sears, it is needless to remind, is one of the most highly respected members of our industry and combines that integrity, wisdom and understanding which will prove of mutual benefit to both United Artists and its producers."

Shorts Cameramen

(*Continued from page* 1)

the editors made a counter offer, but declined to say what it was. The meeting consumed the greater part of yesterday afternoon, and, after it ended, none of the editors was available for comment.

Pat Casey, veteran industry labor relations expert, who is now on the Coast where he has been called to testify in the Congressional probe of industry labor practices, is scheduled to meet Aug. 20 with newsreel editors and Walter A. Lang, business representative of Local 644 of the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industries, in the newsreel cameramen's bid for cost-of-living increases and a closed shop contract which would run until August, 1948. Lang said yesterday that if Casey will not have returned from the Coast by Aug. 20, the negotiations will proceed with the editors.

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One Square Block
2nd Ave. and Mt. Prospect Ave. in the finest residential apartment section of Newark.
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For sale or long term ground lease.
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Loew Circuit Makes Personnel Changes

Edward Schwartz and Michael Piccirillo, assistant managers on the Loew New York circuit, have been promoted to acting managers, it was disclosed here yesterday. Schwartz has been assigned to Loew's 42nd St. and Piccirillo to Loew's Dyckman.

William Carroll, manager of Loew's 42nd St., has been transferred to Loew's Alpine, Brooklyn. Joseph [illegible], manager of the Dyckman, has [illegible] moved to Loew's Woodside, succeeding William Kleinert, who goes to Loew's Fairmount, Bronx.

Mrs. Louise Leonard, former manager of Loew's Mayfair, has been assigned to Loew's Sheridan, Greenwich Village, succeeding Walter Seligman, who moves to Loew's 86th St. Benjamin Newman, manager of the 86th St., has been transferred to Loew's Grand, Bronx. Frank Murphy, formerly manager of Loew's Penn, Pittsburgh, and other theatres, has been made manager of Loew's State, Newark, succeeding Edward Burke, who was transferred to Loew's Melba. Nathan Bernstock has moved from the Melba to Loew's National, Bronx.

SEG Seeks Extension Of AMPP Contract

Hollywood, Aug. 5.—The Screen Extras Guild today mailed its membership ballots asking for approval for extension of its contract with the Association of Motion Picture Producers to July 31, 1948. The contract otherwise would expire Dec. 31, 1947.

SEG has negotiated an extension with AMPP and is seeking a similar extension with SIMPP and IMPPA.

IMPPA proposals to the Screen Actors Guild for a "separate category" covering pictures budgeted under $100,000 was discussed by the SAG board at last night's meeting, without a finalistic decision. Discussions with IMPPA representatives will continue today, with likelihood that final disposition of the matter will not be disclosed prior to the general SAG meeting Thursday.

Frudenfeld

(*Continued from page* 1)

pheum in Duluth, then went to St. Louis, and later became division manager of the Detroit territory. In 1933 he became division manager of RKO Theatres in Cincinnati and Dayton, which position he has occupied since that time.

During the war, Mr. Frudenfeld was chairman of the motion picture branch of the War Activities Committee for the Cincinnati area. He was also Chief Barker of the Cincinnati Variety Club.

Frudenfeld's successor will be announced shortly.

TOA Policy

(*Continued from page* 1)

factors in Loew's and RKO's decision on joining.

Adoption of any extensive trade practice program by TOA would eliminate the possibility of an affiliation with New York's Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, according to an official of the latter. He said the group is firmly against participation in intra-industry matters and would not go along with TOA if it would have to reverse its position on this.

Lift Dutch Curb

(*Continued from page* 1)

basis as in pre-war years. Disclosure of the action was made yesterday by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Export and Motion Picture Associations.

Since the first of this year when MPEA inaugurated its release schedule in the Netherlands, the 28-week limitation on American product had been a bitter bone of contention.

MPEA considered that the curtailment of playing time was openly discriminatory in that similar restrictions had been placed on the product of no other country.

Early overtures, protesting the prejudicial aspect of the Dutch regulation, were made by Fay Allport, MPA European manager, and later by Arnold Childhouse, MPEA general manager of Holland. Johnston later made strong representations to high Dutch Government and film industry officials during his recent visit to Holland, and was aided by U. S. ambassador Herman Baruch.

In liberating American films from playing-time restrictions, the Dutch, Johnston said, have made one request: that the American industry hold back from Holland all pictures of dubious moral tone. While the elimination of such subjects from its export selections has long been in effect, Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of MPEA, stated that the entire lineup of films scheduled for Dutch release will be carefully restudied and any borderline subjects removed.

Meanwhile, MPEA has received reports from Amsterdam advising that the implications of the decision are being studied by the Dutch Bioscoop Bond, and there was some indication that the distributors' group of that organization may object.

Rank's St. John, Box Due Here on Aug. 14

Earl St. John, chief production counsel to the J. Arthur Rank Organization, and Sydney Box, head of Rank's Gainsborough Studios, are due to arrive here from England on Aug. 14. St. John will spend a month on the Coast, and will return to England on Sept. 18, in company with William Goetz, head of Universal's studios. Box will confer here with James Mason regarding possible production in England, and will have conferences with Robert S. Benjamin and Jock Lawrence of the U. S. Rank organization.

Robert Weait, treasurer of the Rank Organization, returned to New York yesterday from England. Another arrival from England yesterday was British actor David Farrar who will assist here in the exploitation of Rank's "Black Narcissus."

London Gets

(*Continued from page* 1)

ury for consideration in the event the freezing formula is unacceptable.

Treasury and trade officials declined to comment on the American proposal in advance of its consideration by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and prior to Prime Minister Attlee's speech to Parliament on the whole British financial crisis tomorrow.

'Danger' to Open

J. Arthur Rank's "Green for Danger," Eagle-Lion release, opens at the Winter Garden Theatre here tomorrow.

WB Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

ness in times of peace. It will continue to do so.

"Showmanship got lost during the war. We didn't need it and we didn't have time for it because we had our war jobs to do. But we need it now. We must put the SHOW back into our business."

He warned of stiff competition, saying: "We are dealing with the most adult-minded audiences in motion picture history, due to the early mental maturing of modern youngsters via the newspapers and radio, as well as the screen. They mean to get their money's worth out of a picture, or they will spend the money for something else."

The 47 properties on the production slate include 24 dramas, eight adventure stories, five comedies, four musicals and six under the headings of mystery, romance and biography.

Included on the program are: "The Patriots," "Key Largo," "Christopher Blake," "John Loves Mary," "Johnny Belinda," "Distant Drums," "Winter Meeting," "The Fountainhead," "Flamingo Road," "The Turquoise," "The Return of the Soldier," "Ethan Frome," "Man Without Friends," "The African Queen," "Capt. Horatio Hornblower," "The Two Worlds of Johnny Truro," "The Apple Orchard," "The Iron Gates," "Sugar Foot," "Winter Kill," "Dream Street," "The Bright Leaf," "The Story of Eddie Cantor," "Will Rogers," "Mr. Broadway," "The Story of Seabiscuit," "Silver Lining," "Footlights," "Rainbow Mountain," "April Showers," "To the Victor," "The Adventures of Don Juan," "The Forty-Niners," "The Frontiersman," "Montana," "Sunburst," "The Last Fling," "Old Enough to Know Better," "The Persian Cat," "Until Proven Guilty," "The Girl From Jones Beach," "With This Ring," "To the Ends of the Earth," "The Shadow of Fear," "No Common Clay," and "Forever and Always."

Special meetings of territorial groups conducted by division managers Roy Haines and Norman Ayers for sales forces in their respective territories, will wind up the convention tomorrow. Speakers will include: I. F. Dolid, assistant to Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department; Bernard R. Goodman, supervisor of exchanges; Stanley Hatch, head of the contract department, and Robert A. McGuire, auditor of exchanges.

O'Dwyer to Name

(*Continued from page* 1)

film producing potentialities here which Maguire has launched in cooperation with a committee of industry representatives, Maguire's office reported yesterday. Maguire will leave the post effective Aug. 31, and until such time thereafter that the Mayor appoints a new labor relations director, the division will be under the supervision of deputy director Theodore W. Kheel.

Maguire, meanwhile, is expected to send to film company executives this week a recapitulation of the various city departmental regulations which apply to film production with the request that advice be given on the extent to which the regulations tend to hamstring production activities at present. Maguire conferred with the Mayor at City Hall yesterday. The industry study is said to have been discussed at the meeting.

L. A. Publishers' Ad Code Now In Work

Los Angeles, Aug. 5.—The Los Angeles Newspaper Publishers Association's new "Code of Decency for Amusement Advertisers" is in official operation.

Patterned after, and substantially paraphrasing, the motion picture industry's advertising code with respect to considerations of decency, the Association's document was adopted as a result of alleged abuses and license in the advertising offered for burlesque, bootleg pictures, night clubs, etc. Offending copy is to be rejected under the code.

U. S. Tightens Up On New Theatres

Washington, Aug. 5.—A tightening in Government standards for screening theatre construction projects became apparent today when figures were announced for last week's approvals and denials.

For the week ending Aug. 1, only nine theatre projects, costing $113,685, were approved, while 52 projects, which would have cost $2,062,882, were denied.

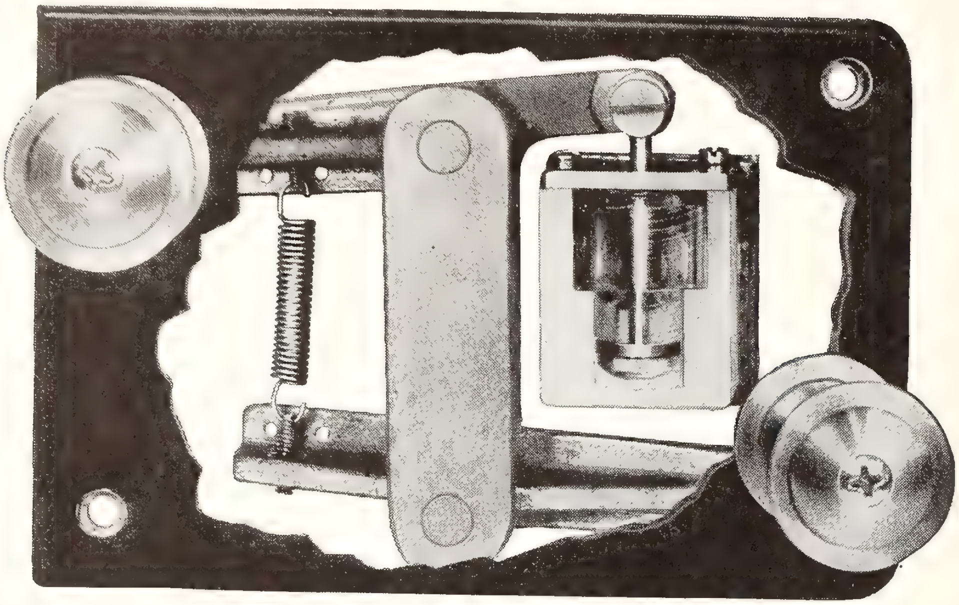
For July, the first month under the new law, 91 projects were approved, costing $2,206,003, against denial of 186 projects, valued at $7,770,387.

Altec Survey

A survey specifically focused on the problems and operating conditions of the smaller Southern theatres is being made by E. O. Wilschke, operations supervisor of Altec Service Corp., now on an extended swing around the South.

$ WATCH IT GROW! $
MR. EXHIBITOR!
• INTERSTATE CIRCUIT
• FOX WEST COAST
• FOX MIDWEST
have booked
RED STALLION
THE GREATEST ACTION THRILLER OF OUR TIME in CINECOLOR!
HAVE YOU?
$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $

For the *best* in motion picture sound...



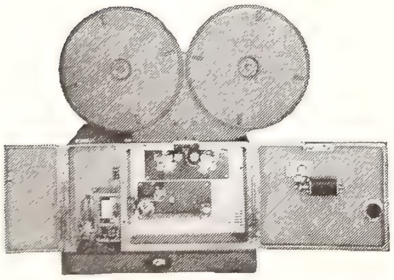
The *Western Electric* Mechanical Filter

cuts flutter to less than half the accepted standard

You can forget flutter when you use a Western Electric recording system with its new mechanical filter. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences limits uneven film motion (flutter) to 0.15%... but the Western Electric filter holds it down to no more than *0.05%* in any particular frequency band, and total flutter down to no more than *0.07%*.

You can forget the filter, too—for it's a simple trouble-free mechanism that requires no adjustment. A precision fitted piston operates in a leakproof cylinder containing a damping fluid which was especially selected for its constant viscosity.

This mechanical filter is but one of many reasons why the new line of Western Electric recording equipment gives the best in motion picture sound. The line is made up of *all new* units—mixers, limiting amplifiers, noise reduction units, regulated power supplies and fully automatic recorder controls.



The Western Electric 300 Series, "Junior" member of the new line, for main channel, standby or portable service, records on either 35 mm or 16 mm film. The change-over is quickly made with simple tools.

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VOL. 62. NO. 27 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1947 TEN CENTS

Sears Views Smooth Course Ahead for UA

New Setup 'No Panacea' But New Start, He Says

Realignment of top management and the directorate of United Artists and the adoption of a program under which the company will depart from its exclusively-distributor functions in favor of financial participation in production has put to an end "a house completely divided" and an "unwieldly type of operation," Gradwell L. Sears, newly-elected president, declared here yesterday.

Furthermore, UA is out for top quality product and is willing to finance it anywhere from five to 75 per cent, he said. Excepting few instances, the company intends to have a monetary interest in all of its film releases and this is motivated by "our

(Continued on page 7)

Bagnall Heads UA's Production Program

George L. Bagnall, United Artists vice-president, yesterday was authorized by the board of directors to launch the company's new production-investment program when financing is arranged and this is expected within 30 days.

Bagnall's assignment is to negotiate several product deals for UA distribution involving financial interests which were held up pending approval of the new investment policy.

Bagnall, whose headquarters are on the Coast, attended yesterday's board session and will remain to negotiate

(Continued on page 7)

March-April Income To Continue: Sears

The public demand for films is still there and testifying to this are the big grosses registered by the "big" pictures, in the opinion of Gradwell L. Sears, president of United Artists. He said yesterday he believes business will maintain a level "much as it was during last March and April," except for periods of normal seasonal decline.

British Propose 'Freezing' Of 75% of Remittances

Commons Has Taken No Action on Plan; Debate Will Continue Today; Dalton Is Expected to Reveal Full Details Then

By WILLIAM PAY

LONDON, Aug. 6.—Prime Minister Attlee announced during the House of Commons debate today on Britain's economic crisis that the government proposes to limit remittances of foreign film earnings in Britain to not more than 25 per cent of the total.

The government's proposal would mean that American film distributors here would be permitted to take out of England only approximately $17,000,000 annually of their estimated $68,000,000 net earned here yearly.

The proposal contrasts with that advanced by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, for American distribution companies, that 75 per cent of their British revenue, or $51,000,000, be remitted to America and the remaining 25 per cent be "frozen" here for an initial period of six months, after which the situation would be reviewed and altered if necessary or, if the situation remained unchanged, the arrangement would stand for another six months before being reviewed.

However, the government's proposals on films, as well as on other aspects of the nation's financial crisis, is still being debated and as of now is only a proposal.

Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton is expected to provide Commons with all of the details of the government's proposal tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Fayette Allport, MPA

(Continued on page 8)

MPA Meet on Attlee Plan

Immediately upon receipt of that part of Prime Minister Attlee's announcement yesterday pertaining to American films in Great Britain, Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, issued a call for a special session of the organization's board of directors here tomorrow.

The MPA office here disclosed that Johnston is en route to New York by plane from his home in Spokane, Wash., and will preside over the meeting which is to begin at 10 A. M.

Meanwhile, home office executives yesterday held in abeyance comment on Attlee's proposal to peg British remittances at the 25-per-cent-of-earnings level until, they said, a complete picture of the situation develops.

Spokesmen pointed out that Attlee's proposal is not tantamount to approval

(Continued on page 8)

Cameramen Offered $35 Wage Increase

Counter offer made by the companies to the short subjects cameramen's bid for a blanket $85-per-week pay increase, retroactive for two years, is $35 retroactive for one year, a company spokesman disclosed yesterday. He said Walter A. Lang, business representative of Local 644 of the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industries, IATSE, with whom the short subjects editors commenced negotiations on Tuesday, has shown no inclination to accept the counter offer.

Negotiations will continue, with meetings to take place from time to time on short notice.

The cameramen now receive $165 per week. Their five-year contract with the companies, which will expire early in 1948, contains clauses allowing reopening of negotiations at various intervals. If and when a pay increase settlement is arrived at as a result of current negotiations, the increase will go into effect immediately.

Commenting on the pay increase demand, the company spokesman said: "As soon as we start losing money they ask for increases."

Call British Freeze Violation of Pact

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—High government officials declared here today that the British action freezing film remittances was a violation of the British loan agreement which promised free convertibility of current sterling receipts, and indicated that it might be protested as such in forthcoming talks on relaxing provisions of the British loan agreement.

These talks, Secretary of State Marshall revealed today, had been agreed to by the U. S. after the British requested them a week or 10 days ago. The discussions will revolve around relaxing the requirements that Britain make pounds sterling freely convertible into dollars or other currency and that she abandon all preferential trade regulations. There was some doubt here as to whether these provisions can be modified without congressional approval, and if so how much. Marshall said the British had promised not to violate the free-trade clause pending the new talks, but did not mention any temporary understanding on the convertibility clause.

At a press conference today, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder said there

(Continued on page 8)

Aim for Maximum Attendance for TOA

In an effort to boost to a maximum attendance at the organizational convention of the proposed Theatre Owners of America and thus bring out as many viewpoints as possible for consideration, the American Theatres Association will extend invitations to

(Continued on page 8)

British Decree Sets Film Stocks Off

The British proposal to limit remittances on American films to 25 per cent softened industry shares yesterday on the New York Stock Exchange. Losses ran to about a point for 20th Century-Fox, with Paramount dropping nearly as much. Other film shares were off fractionally.

The balance of the market was quiet and irregular.

Personal Mention

GEORGE WELTNER, Paramount International president, is on vacation and is due back here Aug. 19.

•

Helen Beckerman, manager of Century's College Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., has taken a three-month leave to recuperate from a recent illness, and Harry Gilbert, formerly assistant of the Albemarle, Brooklyn, will replace her in her absence.

•

Ernie Grecula, advertising-publicity director for Hartford Theatres Circuit, Hartford, and his family will vacation in Connecticut and Maine for two weeks, beginning Sunday.

•

Max Fellerman, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. executive, has returned here from a tour of Netco theatres in upstate New York. He was accompanied by Harry Royster.

•

Monte Hale, Republic actor, will leave Hollywood Sunday for Miami where he will be a guest at the Southeastern Exhibitors convention next Monday and Tuesday.

•

Jack Osserman, RKO Radio Latin American supervisor, who was in town for home office conferences, left here for his Rio de Janeiro headquarters yesterday.

•

H. D. (Hank) Hearn, owner and and operator of Exhibitor's Service, Charlotte, and Mrs. Hearn are visiting New York and Canada during their vacation.

•

Walter Lloyd, manager of the M and P Allyn, Hartford, and Mrs. Lloyd have returned there from a Florida vacation.

•

Ed Ashmore, Producers Releasing Corp. office manager in Atlanta, and Loretta Grey will be married tomorrow in Atlanta.

•

Pete McCarty of Loew's home office advertising department has returned here from a brief vacation in Ireland.

•

M. A. Lightman, Sr., president of Malco Theatres, is in town from Memphis, following a West Coast visit.

•

Neil Agnew, president of the Selznick Releasing Organization, returned here yesterday from the Coast.

•

Ben Y. Cammack, RKO district manager in Dallas, and Mrs. Cammack are parents of a son.

•

Charles Raymond, Loew's Cleveland division manager, is in town for a home office visit.

•

Samuel Goldwyn, Jr., is here from Beverly Hills.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT was the same desk in the same office. But this time, Grad Sears was sitting behind it as president of United Artists and giving out with first utterances following his election Tuesday afternoon.

His utterances were frank as they ordinarily are and as this demonstrates:

"United Artists has been battered from pillar to post. Many intimate things—some true, some untrue—have been published. We've been a punching bag for trade papers, particularly in Hollywood. This company has been tremendously damaged. I implore you [the trade press] to give us a break and help us to re-establish our public relations, tradewise."

UA has been damaged and its morale severely shaken by the uncertainties of the past few months. But it is not correct to pass the entire blame to the trade press. Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin—their vacillations and their indecision—were at the base.

■

This is beside the point now. The point is Sears is president, with Arthur Kelly his running mate as executive vice-president. With George Bagnall, it is indicated clearly they will run the company and be answerable to a board which is sympathetic and which, presumably, intends being wholly cooperative.

What UA needed above all else is what it now has: management cloaked in autonomy sufficiently guaranteed to make quick decisions in a business where speed frequently is a prime requisite.

■

There is every reason to believe Sears, fully seasoned in the vagaries of ownership-management, never would have accepted the top executive post without setting up conditions of his own. The fact is he was offered the presidency on the same basis under which Ed Raftery had functioned. Sears promptly turned it down and made it pointed that:

He had to have full authority to run the company as he saw fit.

The answer is he won out on the management side and also on the policy side through his designation as ninth director on a board previously split evenly among Pickford and Chaplin appointees. Sears, therefore, enters his larger duties with more unchallenged authority than any predecessor has ever enjoyed.

■

This is the first fundamental shift in the traditionally uncertain and unpredictable United Artists situation. The other is the decision designed gradually to convert the company from a distributor to a producer-distributor. The $5,000,000 revolving fund authorized by the board has to be arranged, but completion of bank arrangements is anticipated by the end of August.

At that point, UA intends becoming an investor in many, but not necessarily all, of the attractions it contracts for distribution on an elastic formula. It can be as little as five per cent or as great as 75 per cent, depending upon the venture and the willingness, or the need, of the producer to share. The purpose here, not touched upon by Sears yesterday, is to fortify UA's net profit position which is in sore need of bolstering.

■

As a distributor, the company has been sliding over the line and into the black with uncomfortably little to spare. When Sears said, "If a film is worth distributing, it is worth having a piece of," he had this in mind without actually divulging it.

Hand-running, of course, is the practical plan of building up a production power house on which UA can hope to rely. If it is reasonable to assume a distributor does a good job on product he only commits himself to sell, surely it is not unreasonable to assume he may do a better job on product in which he has a financial stake. It should never be difficult for any producer to understand this.

Sears also figures the persuasion of production financing will tend to keep in the UA family those desirable producers who have been using the company "like a golf course, playing a couple of rounds, paying the green fees and then going elsewhere."

■

One of the early markers of a happier state of affairs is the vote of confidence given the new management slate by its producers. They asked probing questions in search of reassurances for themselves and the banks financing them and evidently got enough to convince them.

Sears ought to be gratified. We think he is.

20th Begins 16mm. Overseas Activity

Twentieth Century-Fox's worldwide 16mm. program has been set in motion with the shipment of prints to four South American countries, Britain, Australia, South Africa, France, Belgium and the Philippines. Earlier this year the company and Paramount had planned to enter the 16mm. overseas market jointly. Plan fell through, however, and each company resolved to carry on individually.

All 16mm. product will be handled overseas by 20th-Fox through the company's 35mm. branches. Loew's International pursues the same policy. Twentieth-Fox has made available for South America a list of 26 programs. Approximately one-half of these feature-and-shorts units are dubbed in Spanish; the other half ("action" films) is subtitled. Twenty-six programs are being shipped to South Africa, and 12 each to France, Australia and the rest of the United Kingdom. Considerable territorial expansion is said to be in the offing.

Blumenstock to Open 2-Day Ad Meet Here

Two-day joint meeting of Warner field public relations representatives and Warner circuit zone advertising and publicity men will open this morning at the home office, with Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, presiding. More than 40, including members of the home office advertising and publicity staff, will attend.

Following the joint meeting, Harry Goldberg, director of theatre advertising-publicity, will hold a special session with the circuit representatives.

Name Rose European PRC Representative

Ben Rose has been named English and Continental representative for Producers Releasing Corp., succeeding L. E. Kalker, who held the position since early last year, it was announced yesterday by S. L. Seidelman, chief of foreign operations.

Rose was recently assistant general sales manager for British Lion Films. Previously, he held various sales posts with G. F. D. in England for 18 years.

Gross Joins F-C as Aide to Zimbalist

Syd Gross, publicity, advertising and exploitation director of the Rivoli Theatre here, has resigned from that post to join Film Classics, Inc., as executive assistant to Al Zimbalist, national advertising and publicity director. The resignation becomes effective Monday.

William Tell, New York newspaper man, succeeds Gross in the Rivoli post.

P. J. Wood Recovering

Columbus, Aug. 6.—P. J. Wood, executive secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, who yesterday suffered a heart attack, was reported today to be "recovering nicely."

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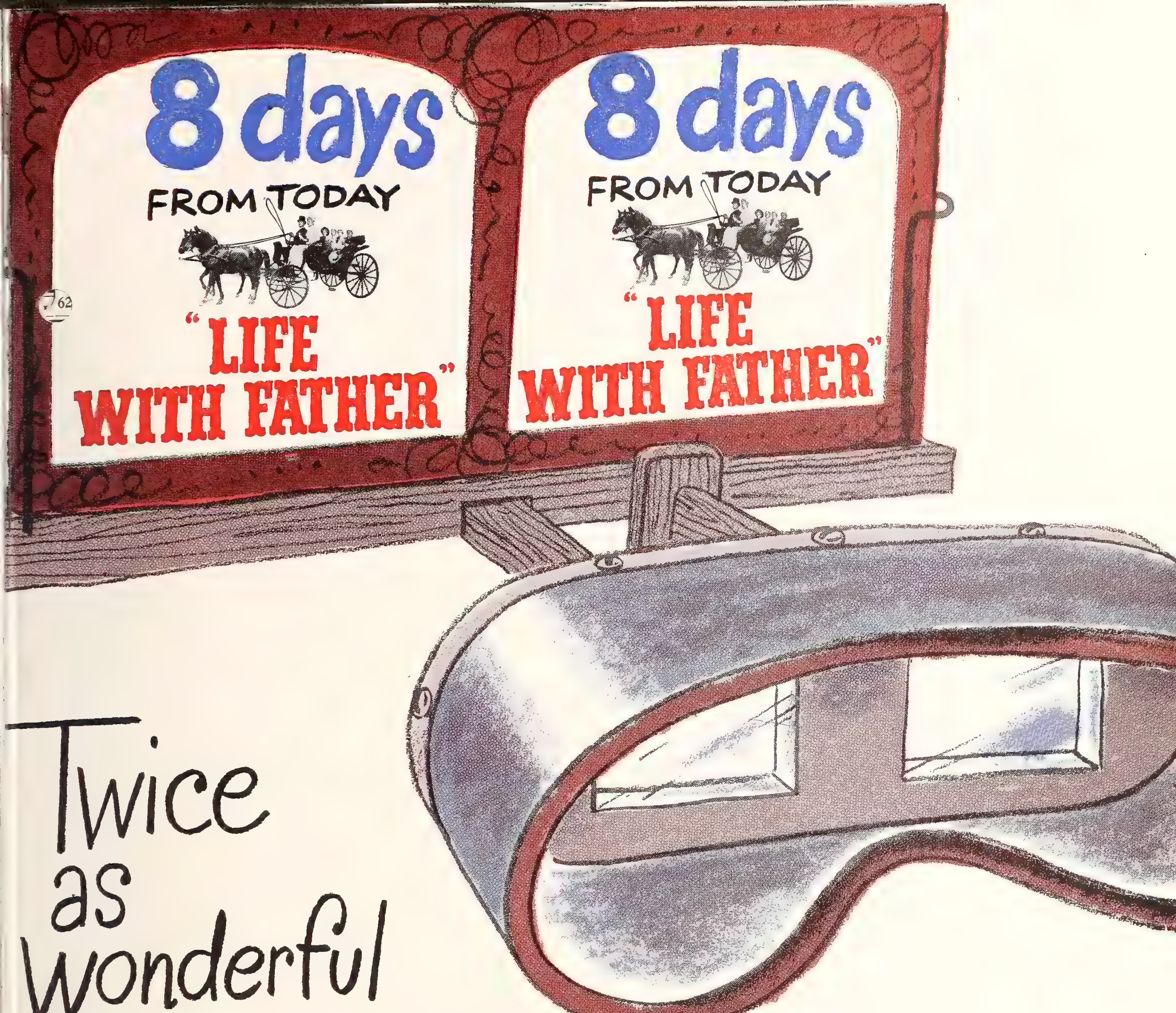

8 days
FROM TODAY
"LIFE WITH FATHER"
8 days
FROM TODAY
"LIFE WITH FATHER"

Twice as wonderful on the screen because **WARNER BROS.** bring it to you with all the fun of its eight year run...

IN COLOR BY **TECHNICOLOR!!**

Clarence Day's

"LIFE WITH FATHER"

STARRING

WILLIAM POWELL
IRENE DUNNE

WITH **ELIZABETH TAYLOR**

EDMUND GWENN • ZASU PITTS
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL CURTIZ • PRODUCED BY ROBERT BUCKNER
FROM THE ORIGINAL PLAY BY HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSEL CROUSE
FROM OSCAR SERLIN'S STAGE PRODUCTION • MUSIC BY MAX STEINER
SCREEN PLAY BY DONALD OGDEN STEWART

Exchange Workers Take Strike Step

Yesterday, following the previous evening's meeting here of front office exchange workers of United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and Columbia, at which the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild received authorization to call a strike when and if necessary, the companies announced that they will offer counter proposals on Friday in connection with the union's demand for a 30 per cent increase or $10 per week, whichever is higher.

It was agreed at yesterday's union-management meeting that the guild's present contract, which expired on Aug. 1 and was extended eight days, would be further extended to Aug. 13, pending a settlement of the current dispute. Meanwhile, SOPEG has made arangements to hold a leaflet-distributing demonstration outside the Broadway theatres next Tuesday evening "to bring the facts of the negotiations to the public."

During the past several weeks, there have been several meetings between SOPEG and the exchanges' managements. However, it was not until yesterday that the companies indicated counter proposals will be made.

At Tuesday evening's union meeting, following the voting of strike authorization, the employes' 20-man strategy and negotiations committee was transformed into a strategy and strike committee. Union is seeking also a 35-hour week.

Otto Langer, SOPEG secretary-treasurer, represented the employes at yesterday's union-management meeting.

Mass Publicists Rally at Roxy Today

Some 3,000 members of the Screen Publicists Guild will hold a mass demonstration today in front of the Roxy Theatre, here, in protest against the lay-off of nine 20th Century-Fox home office publicists, SPG announced last night. Yesterday scores of 20th-Fox employes held a lay-off protest demonstration in the vicinity of the home office.

SPG yesterday said the demonstrations are "only part of a campaign which will continue until the employes are reinstated." The lay-offs came about as a result of "economic necessity," 20th-Fox has stated.

N. J. ATO Outing

The Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold their annual summer outing at the West End Casino, West End, N. J., on Aug. 21. Schedule of events includes: registration, 10 A.M.; swimming, 11 A.M.; luncheon, 1 P.M.; general membership meeting, 2:30 P.M.; swimming and diving events, 3:30 P.M.; gathering in cocktail lounge, 6-7 P.M., and dinner and dance, 7 P.M.

Army Cites Smakwitz

ALBANY, Aug. 6.—Charles A. Smakwitz, Warner Theatres assistant zone manager, has been awarded a certificate of appreciation by the First U. S. Army for his activities in behalf of recruiting. Mayor Erastus Corning and Edward N. Schieberling. former American Legion National Commander, both industry friends, have been similarly honored.

Review

"Singapore"

(Universal-International)

AS showmen well know, Fred MacMurray is a name of box-office significance. In his latest vehicle, he has been given a solid plot groundwork and the support of a reliable cast headed by Ava Gardner, Roland Culver and Richard Haydn. The screenplay mixes melodrama with some recent history, to produce a film patterned along lines of standard appeal.

Using, in part, a flashback technique, the film opens in Singapore at the time of the Japanese assault. This historical event is not to the convenience of MacMurray, a pearl smuggler, as it disrupts his plans for marrying Miss Gardner. Thinking her killed in the attack, he leaves Singapore.

Five years elapse when the story is picked up again, and it has MacMurray back in Singapore to retrieve some hidden pearls. He now learns that his sweetheart is alive, a victim of amnesia, and married to another man, played by Culver. The story presently resolves itself on MacMurray's dual struggle to regain the pearls and to have Miss Gardner recapture the lost past. Involved in this task is an assortment of characters who range from the cunning to the grisly.

The screenplay, devised by Seton I. Miller and Robert Thoeren from an original by the former, keeps things swift and taut, although an occasional tug is exerted on credulity. Events mount to a point where Miss Gardner is kidnapped and tortured by men who believe she knows where the jewels are hidden. Thus the way is paved for the hero's gun to bark a bristling rescue, and eventual understanding to dawn on Culver that Miss Gardner is really meant for MacMurray. As for the pearls, MacMurray returns them to the proper authorities and returns honorably to the United States with his bride, who by this time has recovered her memory.

Haydn, as a perceptive inspector, and Thomas Gomez as a shady merchant, give the principals worthy assistance. John Brahm directed; Jerry Bresler produced.

Running time, 79 minutes. Adult audience classification. Set for September release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Petrillo's Rules On Stand-Bys Off

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 6.—James C. Petrillo's American Federation of Musicians has in recent weeks abandoned some of its stiff regulations because of the Taft-Hartley Labor Law and public opinion, it was indicated in testimony before the House Subcommittee on Labor and Education here.

The requirement that "stand-by" or non-working musicians be paid when non-union members performed were among these regulations cited. Others were the policy of fixing the number of musicians a proprietor of an amusement place should employ; and the ban on union members performing on frequency modulation broadcasts. Maury Paul, a long-time member of the board of directors of the union's Local 47 here, was the main witness on points. These changes were attributed by him to the Taft-Hartley Law and public opinion.

Petrillo Used Strike Threat To Win Video Bar: Zorn

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 6.—By threat of a strike and the resultant shutdown of Hollywood studios, American Federation of Musicians, during contract discussions in 1946, forced film producers to prohibit the use in television of sound tracks and films showing AFM members playing instruments. This charge was made today by Burton A. Zorn of New York, counsel for eight film companies, in testimony before the House Labor Subcommittee probing labor activities.

Studios tried repeatedly to eliminate the television restrictions originated by the union, but "could not budge" James C. Petrillo, the Federation president, Zorn added. He also characterized any suggestion that the barriers were incorporated at the behest of producers as "utterly fantastic." The producers had a gun pointed at their heads and were told to sign or else, Zorn asserted.

Closes 2 Theatres To Protest Taxes

Atlanta, Aug. 6.—W. R. Griffin has closed his two theatres in Cullman, Ala., because of the imposition of a new city tax of 10 per cent on all theatre admissions.

His theatres will be reopened, Griffin says, when the city revokes the tax. Sixty-two per cent of the theatres' grosses have been going to taxes, he complained.

Pickman Full-Time E-L Ass't Ad Head

Jerry Pickman, who several months ago was named assistant director of advertising-publicity-exploitation for Eagle-Lion Films in addition to his duties as publicity manager, has relinquished the post of publicity manager and will devote his full time to his position as assistant director, it was announced yesterday by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity - exploitation. Youngstein also announced the promotion of Leo M. Brody, assistant publicity manager, to publicity manager, effective immediately.

Reorganization of the department, Youngstein explained, was made necessary by increased budgets which have been allocated for advertising, publicity and exploitation on next season's Eagle-Lion product. Under the new personnel structure, Youngstein will be free to travel extensively and survey over-all national promotion.

50c CBS Dividend

A cash dividend of 50 cents per share on Columbia Broadcasting Class A and B stock ($2.50 par value) was declared yesterday by the company's board of directors. Dividend is payable Sept. 5, to stockholders of record on Aug. 22.

NT Executives Open Coast Talks Today

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—Prospective affiliation of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America is among the topics to be discussed at a two-day meeting, starting here tomorrow, of National Theatres division chiefs and film-buying heads. Charles P. Skouras, company president, will preside over discussions on operating and film problems, including the 12th National Theatres fall drive, a comparison of theatre operations by divisions, candy and merchandise, advertising and the Motion Picture Foundation.

Attending will be division presidents Elmer Rhoden, Kansas City, Fox Midwest; Frank Ricketson, Denver, Fox Intermountain; Frank L. Newman, Sr., Seattle, Evergreen; Harold Fitzgerald, Milwaukee, Fox Wisconsin. Film buyers present will include Lon Cox, Kansas City; Frank Christie, Seattle; Milton Hossfeld, Denver, and Gordon Hewitt, Milwaukee.

$1,636,170 Earned By Atlas in 6 Mos.

Dividends of Atlas Corp., which owns most of the stock of RKO, totaled 80 cents a share and aggregated $1,636,170 in the six months ended June 30, Floyd B. Odlum, Atlas president, reported yesterday in the investment company's semi-annual report. Dividend total compares with 25 cents a share in the same period of 1946.

A third quarterly dividend of 40 cents per share has been declared on the common stock, payable Sept. 20 to shareholders of record at the close of business Aug. 28. The indicated asset value of the Atlas common stock was placed at approximately $31.77 per share for the total amount outstanding as of June 30, but it was noted that this figure had increased to around $33.12 as of July 31, reflecting, it was said, improved stock market conditions.

Balaban Answers in Stockholder's Suit

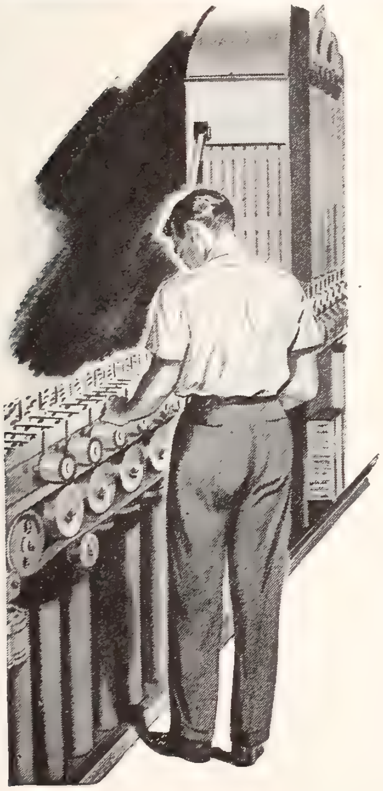
A stockholder's New York Federal Court complaint against the sale in 1944 of $2,000,000 in Paramount notes to Barney Balaban, president, was answered yesterday with a general denial of the charge of illegality.

The company, Balaban, Austin Keough, general counsel; Edwin L. Weisl, a director, and Adolph Zukor assert in the answer that Balaban's purchase of the notes was approved by more than two-thirds of the voting shares at a stockholders' meeting on June 20, 1944. Paramount and all 18 of its directors were named in the suit. Plaintiff is Hyman Horowitz.

'Long Night' Opens In 347 N.E. Houses

BOSTON, Aug. 6.—The New England area premiere of RKO Radio's "The Long Night" took place today at 347 theatres in six New England states and upper New York state, spearheaded by the Memorial Theatre, here.

Sixty-one radio stations have carried spot announcements for the past 10 days. A mock trial based on the picture will be staged in Symphony Hall Aug. 13. Proceeds will go to the Children's Hospital Fund.



Guardian of her most important "bath"...

COSTLY shots like this might be so much spoiled footage... save for the vigilance and knowledge of the laboratory man.

He makes sure that the dailies take *their* all-important bath... inspecting, testing, keeping constant check as the exposed footage runs through the developing, fixing, and washing tanks and driers.

To his skill and watchfulness... as film representing "box-office gold" literally slips through his careful fingers... motion pictures owe much of their well-earned reputation for technical excellence.

This skill is more effective... the burden of constant vigilance lessened... when he works with dependable film of superior quality. That's why he always welcomes the family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Slave Girl" appeared to have the only richly rewarded answer to the question of what to do with one's time here when the thermometer hikes above 90, where it's been for 10 days with no sign of descending. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 6:

BLITHE SPIRIT (UA-Two Cities) (Revival) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). 5 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $4,700)

BLITHE SPIRIT (UA-Two Cities) (Revival) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen 'Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $14,200)

BLITHE SPIRIT (UA-Two Sities) (Revival) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $5,400)

BLITHE SPIRIT (UA-Two Cities) (Revival) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 5 days. Gross: $1,500.

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,100)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,300)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $22,600)

IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and BELLS OF SAN FERNANDO (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $26,600)

IMPERFECT LADY (Para.) and BELLS OF SAN FERNANDO (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $16,100)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) — CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week: Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $18,200)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $28,600)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (20c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,200)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $18,200)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $15,500)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $14,900)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio) — ORPHEUM (2,216) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,800)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio) — VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $5,900)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,200)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I) — RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,600)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,100)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $22,700. (Average: $15,800)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,800)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,800)

PHILADELPHIA

At least half the houses here are offsetting usual vacation-time doldrums with strong bookings. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "Brute Force" and "Tarzan and the Huntress" are attracting well over average business, while "The Hucksters" and "Dear Ruth" continue to fare nicely. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 5-7:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-89c-94c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $9,500)

CRY WOLF (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,500)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (MGM) — EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $31,700)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE OTHER LOVE (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $21,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,200)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $27,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,700)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $13,800)

THE YEARLING (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run, Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,600)

OMAHA

One of the hottest stretches in recent years continued. "Miracle on 34th Street" did better than house average. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 6-7:

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) —PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $11,100. (Average: $10,600)

THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox) —OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,300)

THE RED HOUSE (UA) and BIG TOWN (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,400)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and MILLIE'S DAUGHTER (Col.) —RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,100)

KANSAS CITY

The temperature soared to new highs, drawing many to the swimming pools and parks. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" registered well, as did "Welcome Stranger." Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 5-7:

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) — FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,800. (Average: $1,750)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) — TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $9,700. (Average: $6,000)

MARKED WOMAN (WB-reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB-reissue)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $14,250. (Average: $15,000)

THE WEB (U) and TIME OUT OF MIND (U) — ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c). 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

CLEVELAND

"I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" won out in competition with a continued hot spell, with a take heading for $20,500 at the RKO Palace. "The Hucksters" is 25 per cent over house average at Loew's Stillman. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 5-6:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000).

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (Advanced prices: 90c $1.25). 8th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-70c: $6,500)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c). 3rd week, on a move-over, following two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) — RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: $20,500. (Average: $14,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $17,500)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)

THE WEB (U-I)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c). 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,250)

MINNEAPOLIS

Theatre business held fairly stable through the year's worst hot spell, with "Welcome Stranger" winding up three good weeks at Radio City. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7:

COPACABANA (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,500)

IT HAPPENED ON FIFTH AVENUE (Allied Artists)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 2nd week (moved from the State). Gross: $4,900. (Average: $5,600)

IVY (U-I)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,500)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,300)

MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,400)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,000)

DENVER

Continued hot weather has been driving large numbers of people to out-of-doors pursuits, and theatre business is being affected accordingly. By and large, however, grosses here are average. Best business-bringer has been "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," at the Denver and Webber. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 6:

FABULOUS DORSEYS (UA) and KILLER AT LARGE (PRC)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Day-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)

GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) day-date with the Esquire. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day-date with the Webber. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) day-date with the Denver. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,000)

MEET JOHN DOE (Selected) and FLYING DEUCES (Astor)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $7,000)

MIRACLE OF 34TH STREET ([illegible]ox) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mo[illegible])—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). After a week each at Paramount and Esquire. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 3rd week. Gross: $10.000. (Average: $11,000)

POSSESSED (WB) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After a week each at Denver and Webber. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,500)

ST. LOUIS

"Perils of Pauline" and "The Hucksters" and air conditioning pulled the customers in as the thermometer hovered around 100. Estimated receipts for week ended Aug. 6:

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). 2nd week of moveover from two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $9,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c 75c: $8,500)

EGG AND I (U-I) — SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). 3rd week of moveover from three weeks at Ambassador. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,500)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500)

IVY (U-I) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,500)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and THREE ON A TICKET (PRC) — ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000)

POSSESSED (WB) and THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO-Radio)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). 2nd week of a moveover from the Ambassador and a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

CHICAGO

"Welcome Stranger" opened at the Apollo with a gross which doubled average. Also strong are "Brute Force" in its second week at the Grand, "Carnival in Costa Rica" at the Oriental, "Dear Ruth" in its fourth week at the Chicago, "The Hucksters" in its second week at the State Lake, and "Perils of Pauline" at the Garrick. Elsewhere grosses were so-so. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 4:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GRAND (1,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $16,000)

CARNIVAL IN COST RICA (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (1,200) (95c) On Stage: Art Lund and Helen Forrest. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $40,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,800) (95c) 4th week. On stage: Jo Stafford and Victor Borge. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $59,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox) —ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). 3rd week. Gross: 15,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c). 2nd week. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $30,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—Garrick (1,000) (95c). Gross: $18,500. (Average, $11,500)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L)—

(*Continued on page 7*)

Key City Grosses

(Continued from preceding page)

WOODS (1,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,500)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I) and DESPERATE (RKO-Radio) — PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.) — AP[illegible] (1,200) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Av[illegible]: $12,000)

BOSTON

Business opened well on Thursday but faded considerably on Sunday to throw grosses off their previous climb back to average. The only top business done in Boston during the week was chalked up by the Boston Theatre with the return of the stage show to that house. Perry Como and Marion Hutton topped a show that did turnaway box office business; picture is "The Vigilantes Return." Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 6:

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 6 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $27,000)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (Eagle-Lion) and THE PRETENDER (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,500)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (Eagle-Lion) and THE PRETENDER (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Perry Como and Marion Hutton. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $23,500)

TORONTO

Cooler weather, and a three-day holiday weekend which caused a large exodus to the country, kept grosses in the neighborhood of average here this week. Only "Honeymoon" at Shea's Theatre, and "Odd Man Out" drew above-average grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7:

HONEYMOON (RKO Radio) — SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,800).

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M-)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,800)

HUNGRY HILL (GFD) — UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $11,400)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $7,800)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,500)

ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,300)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $5,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

PITTSBURGH

"The Egg and I" opened very strongly. "Ivy" also is doing well. Extremely hot weather, however, is sending movie-goers to the outdoors; all of the drive-in theatres are packing in the customers. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 7:

EASY COME, EASY GO (Para.) and FEAR IN THE NIGHT (Para.)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,700)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $25,000)

IVY (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)

NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.) and CALENDAR GIRL (Rep.) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,500)

POSSESSED (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,000)

Press to See 'Roosevelt'

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—A special screening of Tola Productions' "The Roosevelt Story" will be held for Washington correspondents on Aug. 11 at the National Archives Building here. The film will have its world premiere at Brandt's Globe Theatre in New York Aug. 21. Net proceeds of the opening night sale will go to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. On Aug. 22, the film begins simultaneous engagements at the Globe and Republic Theatres in New York.

Name Pabst to PRC Post

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 6.—George Pabst, formerly 20th Century-Fox salesman and later branch manager of Screen Guild, has been appointed local manager of PRC and Eagle-Lion, succeeding Milton Dureau. Elizabeth Bacon, booker of Screen Guild, will move to PRC in two weeks.

Big Day for Para. Here

The New York Paramount opened at 8 A.M., an hour ahead of normal, yesterday for the first day of "Welcome Stranger." Day's business was the greatest the theatre has done this year, Robert Weitman, managing director, said.

'Mitty' Breaks Record

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" broke opening day records at the Woods Theatre, Chicago, on Monday and topped the first day's gross on the following day, the RKO Radio home office reports.

Buy Tulsa Theatre

TULSA, Okla., Aug. 6.—The purchase of the 1,200-seat Plaza Theatre here by Griffith Theatres, Inc., has been announced by Henry Griffith, executive vice-president of the circuit.

Buys Bronx Theatre

The Dale Theatre in the Bronx has been purchased by Nathan V. Steinberg from the Road Realty Corp. The property also contains two stores.

Bagnall Heads

(Continued from page 1)

the financing. He told the directors that the company is assured of a steady flow of pictures at least until Jan. 1, 1948, at the rate of three every two months.

The board also approved an agreement with Manuel Pena Rodriguez of Sur Cinematographica, Argentina, for the distribution of five films in South America with an option on any of them for world-wide release rights.

Sears Views

(Continued from page 1)

opinion that any picture worth distributing is worth having an interest in," Sears added.

Expanding on the new policy, Sears reported that producers channeling their pictures through UA will have a voice in certain operations and this has been implemented with the establishment of a three-man committee which will function in behalf of all producers. David Loew is chairman of the group which includes William Cagney and Carl Leserman, the latter representing producer Benedict Bogeaus.

Examples of matters which would be of concern to the committee include court decrees governing film operations, censorship and taxation such as England's projected *ad valorem* duties on imported U. S. product, Sears said.

Sears acknowledged unrest on the part of U. A. producers during the "crisis," meaning the period during which the affairs of the company had been in an unsettled state, but went on to say that all issues have been resolved to the satisfaction of all.

Producers Voted Confidence

He said that at the last of a series of meetings, he told the producers of his appointment as president and director and the appointment of Arthur W. Kelly as executive vice-president and this was acclaimed with a vote of confidence by every producer dealing with UA.

Sears related that he told the producers the readjustment of top management in itself would mean "no panacea to all problems but it stabilizes the situations and we go on from here."

He said the producers' committee was appointed to prevent the development of "a similar situation."

The establishment of a $5,000,000 revolving fund for production investments is earmarked for immediate attention with Kelly slated to negotiate the financing with banks in New York and George Bagnall, Hollywood vice-president, to deal with West Coast banks, Kelly said.

The money probably will be negotiated within 30 days, it was said.

Sears' Vote Precludes Deadlock

Sears asserted that the new company set-up will end what he called the board's practice of "preempting to some extent the rights of management." Heretofore, eight directors constituted the board, four of them representing Mary Pickford and the other four Charles Chaplin. Sears observed that his vote, the ninth one, precludes the possibility of future deadlocks.

As for the likelihood of personnel switches under the new regime, Sears said he does not "anticipate any major changes" and Kelly commented he "has not had time to study the situation."

Bagnall's position remains the same, Sears said. Bagnall himself said he has no contract and added he "doesn't believe in them." Kelly's pact is for three years. Sears said his contract as distribution vice-president specifies that he is to take whatever office the board gives him. Longevity of the agreement is the same as that of the president of any other company, he said, explaining that it will come up for renewal at every annual meeting. UA holds its annual session in June.

Elaborating on the instances in which UA will not have a financial interest in the product it distributes, Sears pointed out that the company is now obliged to fulfill present pacts, including one with Enterprise ("a very enterprising organization," he called it) for six pictures and one with Story Productions "when and if" it produces "This Side of Innocence." Additionally, he said, if "Selznick were to come along with a 'Gone With the Wind,' we would not say no."

Kelly will leave for London late this month and hopes to strike a "happy medium" in UA relations with J. Arthur Rank, he said. He added UA is bent on obtaining 100 per cent playing time in the Rank-controlled Odeon circuit.

UA-Enterprise Heads In Campaign Parley

Gradwell L. Sears, new United Artists president; George J. Schaefer, Enterprise vice-president in charge of distribution, and J. J. Unger, UA general sales manager, will begin two days of sales, advertising and publicity conferences today at the UA home office to map over-all pre-release programs on Enterprise's "Body and Soul" and "Arch of Triumph."

Advertising budgets and pre-release publicity campaigns for the pictures were discussed with Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity head, yesterday by Robert Taplinger, Enterprise vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, who last night left here for the Coast. Fred N. Polangin, Enterprise Eastern publicity head, will resume the talks with Lazarus today.

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14 Theatre Projects Get U.S. Approval

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Among the theatre construction projects approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter from July 1-25 were: Victoria Amusement Co., Clark's Summit, Pa., $115,000; Norwood Theatres, La Habra, Cal., $100,000; The Carbon Fuel Co., Decota, W. Va., $100,000; Salona S. Greer, Santa Fe, N. M., $86,361; Griffith Consolidated Theatres, Stillwater, Okla., $83,775; Arcofree Corp., Miami Beach, Fla., $85,000.

Also B and Q Theatres, Boston, $70,000; Dixie Amusement Co., Cornealia, Ga., $70,664; A. W. Pugh, Columbus, Kas., $65,000; G. G. Durnal, Homer Culison and Karl Whistehuff, Bartonville, Ill., $56,000; Reese B. Harrington, Bridgeville, Del., $66,089; Samuel Frank, Berlin, N. J., $60,000; Mrs. Ethel M. White, Birmingham, Ala., $50,000; and Daniel Bzovi, Ecorse, Mich., $49,000.

Dulles to Help House Foreign Aid Group

WASHINGTON, Aug. 6.—Allen W. Dulles, who has served as industry consultant on foreign problems, has been appointed a consultant to the House Committee on Foreign Aid, it was announced today. The committee is charged with making recommendations on U. S. foreign aid policy. Dulles is a partner in the New York law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell.

E-L 'Stallion' Premieres

Simultaneous world premieres for Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor production, "Red Stallion," have been set Aug. 12 at the Carthay Circle Theatre in Los Angeles and the Majestic Theatre in Houston. The Los Angeles opening will be attended by stars garbed in Western and outdoor costumes, in contrast to the Houston opening whose tone will be set by tails and top hats.

Johnson Promoted

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 6.—Robert E. Johnson has been named advertising-publicity director for Fanchon and Marco-St. Louis Amusement Co. Theatres in St. Louis, replacing M. L. Plessner, who resigned effective Aug. 1. Johnson was promoted from his post as assistant. Ray Parker, manager of the St. Louis Theatre, was named Johnson's assistant.

Altec Buys Peerless

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—Peerless Electric Products Co. of Hollywood, makers of fluorescent lamp starters and transformers, has been purchased by Altec Lansing Corp., according to an announcement by G. L. Carrington, president of the latter.

U-I Shifts Goldsmith

Lee Goldsmith, in charge of newsreel booking at the Universal-International home office, has been transferred to Cleveland as office manager. He succeeds Herbert Horstmeier, who resigned to join PRC.

2 More to Blumenthal

JACKSONVILLE, Aug. 6.—The Pix and Dixie theatres here have been sold by C. P. Cohen to the Blumenthal circuit, Barney Hohenstein, owner.

Television Service Rents Sets to Bars

A new television service which rents large-screen receivers to bars and hotels, has been announced here by Albert Brod, president of Commercial Television Corp. The service, it is claimed, is at present installing sets at the rate of 10 to 20 a week.

The initial charge of the service is $100 for installation and $125 for deposit on the receiver. Arrangements for purchase of the sets also can be made.

TOA Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

operators of 275 circuits, regardless of present affiliation, according to Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director and a member of the "managing committee" of TOA.

Also, all individual members of ATA will be circularized and in addition to this ATA unit directors will urge that individuals attend, he said.

The convention of TOA, which would come into being upon ratification of a merger of ATA and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, is to be held Sept. 19-20 at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

A meeting of ATA and MPTOA officers will be held here today to take up detailed planning of the convention. Expected to participate are A. Julian Brylawski, MPTOA vice-president and convention chairman; Herman Levy, MPTOA counsel; Ted R. Gamble, ATA board chairman; Si Fabian, ATA president, Coyne, and possibly others.

Named to PCCITO Meet

SEATTLE, Aug. 6.—This city's representatives at the meeting of the board of trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners in Salt Lake City, Aug. 19-21, will be Leroy Johnson, general manager of Jensen and Von Herberg Theatres, and L. O. Lukan, it was announced yesterday.

Open New Odeon House

TORONTO, Aug. 6.—The opening of Odeon's new 1,195-seat Fairlawn here will be held Aug. 14 with proceeds going to the Pioneers' Benevolent Fund. A committee of 22, headed by Len Bishop, manager of Famous Players' Tivoli Theatre, is in charge of arrangements.

Mexican Stuntman Killed

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 6.—Angel Garcia, Mexican actor and stuntman, was killed while doubling for Johnny Weismuller in the making of "Tarzan and the Sirens" at Acapulca. He struck a raft in a dive and was killed.

Sandy Joins Equity

Fred Sandy, formerly PRC branch manager in Philadelphia, has joined Equity Film Exchanges, Inc., as Washington branch manager, Bernie Mills, general sales manager of Equity announces.

Retitle 20th Picture

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—New title for 20th Century-Fox's "Bob, Son of Battle" is "Thunder in the Valley."

U. S. Films Blanket Budapest First-Runs

Constituting what is said to be an all-time record for American product on the screens of any city outside the U. S., Hollywood films played in all 11 of Budapest's first-run houses during the week ending July 26, according to reports from the Motion Picture Export Association in Hungary. Films released by MPEA tenanted 10 of the houses, while the 11th ran a picture of an independent American distributor.

While MPEA films have consistently played in six, seven and eight of Budapest's first-run outlets, this is the first time in local exhibition annals that American features have held forth simultaneously in all of that city's top houses, MPEA's New York office said. By virtue of its policy of releasing day-and-date in Budapest, MPEA said that actually it had only six different subjects at work during the big week: "Jane Eyre," "Lucky Partners," "Gilda," "The Lodger," "The Sky's the Limit" and "The Fallen Sparrow."

Film Business Holds In Dutch Indies War

The outbreak of Dutch-Indonesian hostilities had no appreciable adverse effect on theatre business in the Netherlands East Indies, according to reports received by the Motion Picture Export Association here from Charles Core, MPEA managing director at Batavia.

While grosses dipped during the first week of fighting because of a dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed by the Dutch High Command, box-office receipts returned to normal immediately after the evening performance ban was lifted, MPEA said.

Pending official recognition of a responsible Indonesian government, MPEA at present is confining its release of films to cities and towns under NEI government control, it was stated.

British Technicians Here 'To Observe'

Five members of the Association of Cine-Technicians of Great Britain arrived here yesterday from England for a three-month U. S. visit during which they will "observe Hollywood and American techniques." They are: C. J. F. Wheeler, vice-president of the Association; Leslie Pryor and Sydney Bremson, attorneys, and George Hill and Robert Attwooll. They will leave here for the Coast tomorrow.

Upon arriving the five visited Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, who recently returned here from a tour of England where he arrived at the basis of an agreement for the interchange of film technicians involving both those of the Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees and the ACT.

Australia Wool Boom May Cut Film Duties

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 6.—The prosperity of Australia's wool industry may pave the way for a reduction in import duties on films, Ralph R. Doyle, managing director of RKO Radio in Australia and New Zealand predicted here yesterday on leaving for Sydney following a week at the studio.

Doyle said a record amount of wool is being sold in this country by Australia and has established a favorable trade balance for the first time.

British Plan

(Continued from page 1)

representative here, is believed to be armed with an alternate proposal from American distribution companies which may be advanced in place of the blocking of 25 per cent of remittances in the event that developments in Commons tomorrow reveal strong support for the government's proposal or indicate the need for an alternative proposal from the American industry.

Official and trade reaction to the government proposal was reserved due to the lack of details, which will not be available until tomorrow. Most trade quarters, however, regarded the proposal as extremely severe and felt that it might be modified in consequence of later developments.

A number of officials observed that the government proposal is comparable to the adoption of a high *ad valorem* tax on American film imports such as could be invoked under the powers recently granted to Dalton. They remarked, however, that the new proposal appeared to rule out any possibility of the Dalton *ad valorem* plan being placed in effect.

Pact 'Violation'

(Continued from page 1)

had been no call from Britain for a new loan. The Attlee government has only $1,000,000,000 left of the original $3,750,000,000 loan.

Motion Picture Association officials here finally admitted that their original proposal, delivered to the Labor government yesterday, called for withholding 25 per cent of American remittances. Fay Allport, British representative for MPA, was left to decide whether to ask for a review at the end of the six months or at the end of a year, they said.

MPA officials in Washington indicated they would not take any action until complete details of the British government order had arrived. Late yesterday, they were still not completely sure that the British action was merely a remittance freeze and not an outright tax, as originally feared.

A sidelight on the foreign situation came from Capitol Hill, where two high-ranking members of the House Ways and Means Committee warned that Congress may refuse to extend the Reciprocal Trade Agreement Act next session, when it comes up for renewal, unless foreign governments "change their present attitudes."

MPA Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

by Parliament and, additionally, a variety of other factors are far from crystal-clear. Attlee did not make known what he has in mind regarding the 75 per cent of earnings, whether all of it is to be frozen, or perhaps whether part of it could be invested in England. The distribution executives also were without knowledge of any time factors in Attlee's plan, they said.

For the most part it was said here that Johnston, in effect, is "carrying the ball" and he has the weight of the industry supporting him.

For the same lack-of-information reason, executives here declined to speculate on possible retaliatory measures here in the event Attlee's measure is enacted.

OT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 28 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 1947 TEN CENTS

Britain Sets Tax at 300% Of Imported Films' Value

British Tax Prods U-I to Sales Changes

Scully Says Clearances May Be Cut Shortly

First of the companies to take action in the wake of the British tax development yesterday, drastic changes in sales policies of Universal-International were indicated by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager.

William Scully

One of these is a change that will enable a more rapid liquidation of the company's product, which would probably mean blanket releases in key cities of all U-I's films.

It may be expected, Scully intimated, that some move will

(*Continued on page 6*)

$7,885,000 Para. Quarter Earnings

Paramount's estimated earnings for the second quarter ended July 5 are $7,885,000 after all charges, including estimated provision for taxes on income.

Figure includes $1,489,000 representing Paramount's direct and indirect net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially owned

(*Continued on page 6*)

Deny Rehearing of Jackson Park Suit

CHICAGO, Aug. 7.—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here has denied defendants' petition for a rehearing of the Jackson Park anti-trust case.

Miles Seeley, defense attorney, requested a rehearing on July 8 after the Circuit Court had awarded the second favorable decision to Jackson Park. The defendants, including the

(*Continued on page 7*)

British See Tax Causing Film 'Famine'

LONDON, Aug. 7.—Dire predictions of the consequences of the new *ad valorem* tax of 300 per cent on American films imposed by the British Treasury today were rife throughout the trade here.

Fear that British theatres will experience a film famine in six months were to be heard at every turn.

W. F. Fuller, secretary of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, described the tax as "a devastating blow to the industry."

"It is the biggest threat to our future yet," he said, predicting that Britain will "be out of the American market."

There are enough films in Britain now, not affected by the new tax, to service exhibitors here for six months, Fuller said. Thereafter, exhibitors will face a crisis and will be helpless, he said.

A special meeting of the CEA has been called for next Tuesday to consider the emergency situation.

A similar attitude was taken by

(*Continued on page 7*)

Formula of Treasury Order Amounts To 75 Per Cent Tax on Earnings of All American Films Shown in Britain

By WILLIAM PAY

LONDON, Aug. 7.—The British Treasury today issued an order imposing an ad valorem duty of 300 per cent of the estimated value of "foreign" films, payable at the time of their importation. The order is effective immediately.

The Treasury order implements Prime Minister Attlee's declaration to Commons yesterday that the Government proposed to limit remittances on foreign films to not more than 25 per cent of their earnings. This declaration was so vague, when made, that most quarters here interpreted it to mean that the remaining 75 per cent of imported films' earnings would be "frozen" in Britain.

The Treasury order eliminates all doubt on that score.

The new 300 per cent ad valorem duty chargeable against the value of films is substituted for the duty of five pence per

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston Delves Into Tax Decree

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, arrived here from Seattle yesterday morning and devoted almost the entire day to a huddle with top members of his staff and other industry executives canvassing all aspects of the British import tax.

Whether there is an avenue open for further negotiations with the British has yet to be determined, it was said. The tax program prompted Johnston to call an emergency meeting of the MPA board, to begin at 10 A.M. today.

US Action Against British Unlikely

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Little official action can be expected against the new British tax on film imports, it was indicated here today.

Although most officials refused to comment at any great length until they have received official and complete details of the Attlee program,

(*Continued on page 7*)

10 Months' Supply of US Duty-Free Films in UK

With an estimated 125 pictures of the American companies now awaiting release in England, and consequently freed of the 75 per cent-of-earnings import duty which the British Government imposed yesterday on foreign films, company executives here are now endeavoring to determine the number of pictures which can be "profitably" sent to Great Britain in the future.

In general, they feel they have plenty of time to figure out this problem since the supply of duty-free product now in England is expected to last between six and 10 months.

Meanwhile, the American compa-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Launch Ad Code's National Campaign

Full-scale operation of the Advertising Advisory Council's campaign to carry its observance of the terms of the newly revised Advertising Code to all elements of the industry was begun yesterday when Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the advertising and publicity directors committee of the Motion Picture Association, outlined the details of a nationwide public rela-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Films Took 4% of Britain's Dollars

London, Aug. 7.—During the year ending last June 30, four per cent of Britain's total dollar expenditures was for motion pictures, Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton told the House of Commons today.

The percentage would be equivalent to approximately $70,000,000.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, Universal-International's chief of foreign operations, will leave here by plane today for the Coast.

•

JOSEPH GOLDSTEIN, son of NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, owner of the Arcade Theatre, Springfield, Mass., and MRS. GOLDSTEIN, was married in London last Sunday to SONJA LAMBEK. MR. and MRS. GOLDSTEIN and a son and daughter, after attending the ceremony, left for a month's vacation in Switzerland, France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

•

MAXWELL HAMILTON, editor of *Motion Picture* Magazine, will fly to Hollywood Sunday from New York where he will appear in the Lasky-MacEwen production of "Miracle of the Bells."

•

A. O. LA FLAMME, manager of Warner's Strand, Albany, N. Y., is vacationing in Maine, while VICTOR BUNZE, manager of Warner's American, Troy, N. Y., is spending a vacation at Saratoga Lake.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will return here today from a tour of the company's Southern exchanges.

•

DAVID FLEXER, head of Flexer Theatres, Memphis, is on a business trip to Hollywood, Minneapolis, Chicago and St. Louis.

•

BAILEY PRICHARD, Monogram branch manager, Memphis, and his family are vacationing at Myrtle Beach, N. C.

•

EDDIE ATKINSON, former sales representative of Paramount in Atlanta, has been appointed special representative there for Film Classics.

•

BILL WALLACE, general manager of Benton Bros. Film Express, Atlanta, is spending a two-week vacation at the Thousand Islands, N. Y.

•

BILL JOHNSTON, Paramount executive publicist, has returned to New York from a tour of Western territory.

•

SIDNEY LAIRD, general manager of Al-Dun Amusement Co., West Point, Ga., was a recent Atlanta visitor.

•

PHIL LAUFER, Allied Artists and Monogram publicist here, will start a week's vacation on Monday.

•

I. E. LOPERT, head of Lopert Films, Inc., will leave France today on the *SS America* for New York.

•

KARL KRUG, motion picture editor of the Pittsburgh *Sun-Telegraph*, is a New York visitor.

•

GEORGE PETERS, manager of the Loew's Theatre, Richmond, and MRS. PETERS are vacationing here.

Hits at Reception Of British Films

Columbus, O., Aug. 7.—Adverse booking policies for British pictures and "better-film advocates" who actually fail to support British product were blamed for meager box-office returns here for "Great Expectations" and "Odd Man Out" by Samuel T. Wilson, film editor of the Columbus *Dispatch*.

"Great Expectations," which had "The Hucksters" as its chief opposition, was pulled after three days and "Odd Man Out" was substituted. The latter ran four days.

PIC Title, Function Change Is Effected

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Implementing the functional change agreed upon following a recent meeting with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, the Public Information Committee will be known as the Studio Publicity Directors Committee of the Association of Motion Picture Producers and will concern itself with AMPP public relations only, relinquishing handling of MPA's over-all public relations to a committee being set up by Edward Cheyfitz of MPA. Howard Strickling yesterday assumed the chairmanship of SPDC for a six-month period.

Meet Here on TOA Convention Plans

Plans for the convention of the proposed Theatre Owners of America in Washington, Sept. 19-20, were taken up at a luncheon-meeting at the Hotel Astor here yesterday by A. Julian Brylawski, convention chairman; Frank Boucher, Si Fabian, Robert W. Coyne and Herman Levy.

The meeting approved a circularization of all theatres, inviting them to the convention. American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatres of America will work on this jointly.

MGM Group, Others To England Today

Ben Goetz, managing director of the MGM British Studios; Victor Saville, MGM director; Herbert Stothart, MGM musical director, and David Rose, producer, are scheduled to sail for England from here on the *Queen Mary* today.

Others on the passenger list are Jack Buchanan, British producer, director and player; Andre Charlot, theatrical manager; Maria Montez, Elizabeth Taylor and John Gielgud.

37½c W. B. Dividend

A quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share, payable Oct. 3 to holders of common stock of record at the close of business Sept. 5, was declared yesterday by the board of directors of Warner Brothers.

Proposed Levy for St. Paul is Halved

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 7.—An amendment by Councilman Mortensen to cut the proposed admission tax at St. Paul theatres and other places where admission is charged, was approved by the City Council today after a stormy session. The ordinance, which reduces the originally proposed levy from one cent on each 10 cents or fraction thereof to one cent of each 20 cents or major fraction thereof, must now lay on the table for eight days.

By virtue of its passage by 5-1, approval is certain.

Opponents, led by the city's theatres and North Central Allied reportedly still have hopes of defeating the ordinance, and theatres will continue to run the trailers until next Thursday asking support in killing the tax.

City Council had received 1,050 cards and letters opposing the levy and only four supporting it up to this morning. It was also said here that St. Paul exhibitors plan to circulate a petition for a referendum, and if the move fails at the polls, they may test legality of the ordinance in the courts.

SPG Mass Rally Off; Wait Skouras Talks

The mass demonstration in protest against the lay-off of several 20th Century-Fox home office publicists which the Screen Publicists Guild had planned to hold yesterday in front of the Roxy Theatre, here, was called off at the last moment when word was received that there was "a strong possibility" that Sypros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and others of the company's management will meet soon with Guild representatives for a discussion of the issue, an SPG spokesman said yesterday. Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild representatives are said to be prepared to join with SPG in the holding of a demonstration.

SPG says the planned demonstration will be held in one or two days if the possibility of discussions with management dissolves.

Delay NYC Film Report

Edward C. Maguire, retiring New York City director of labor relations, who was expected to report this week to film company executives in connection with his study of production potentialities here, said yesterday he has postponed issuance of the report until next week. His work on the report will not be completed until then, he said.

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"
with MARK STEVENS • JUNE HAVER
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE IN PERSON!
ABBOTT and COSTELLO
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT • MYRNA LOY • SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATI

NORTHWEST OUTPOST
starring
NELSON EDDY
ILONA MASSEY
A Republic Picture
BRANDT'S COOL GLOBE B'way & 46th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG • SUSAN HAYWARD
JANE GREER in
They Won't Believe Me!
with RITA JOHNSON

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
HEDY LAMARR
DENNIS O'KEEFE
'DISHONORED LADY'
IN PERSON
GEORGE M. COHAN, Jr.
JOHN & RENE ARNAUT
Extra!
JEAN CARROLL

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
38TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
"WELCOME STRANGER"
A Paramount Picture
In Person
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
Bob ALLEN and Leslie LONG
Raul and Eva REVES
NIP NELSON
Midnight Feature Nitely
PARAMOUNT — TIMES SQUARE

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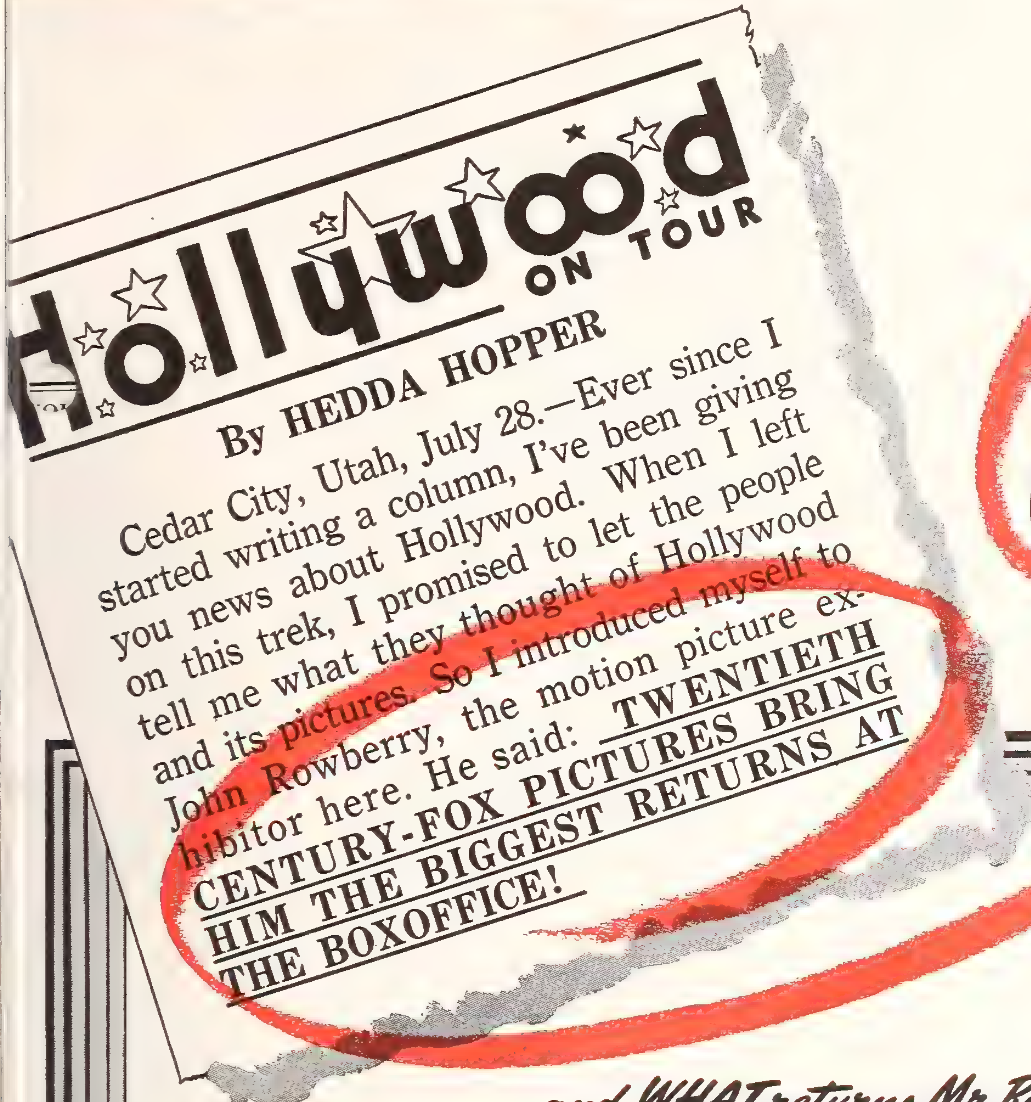

Hollywood ON TOUR

By HEDDA HOPPER

Cedar City, Utah, July 28.—Ever since I started writing a column, I've been giving you news about Hollywood. When I left on this trek, I promised to let the people tell me what they thought of Hollywood and its pictures. So I introduced myself to John Rowberry, the motion picture exhibitor here. He said: TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX PICTURES BRING HIM THE BIGGEST RETURNS AT THE BOXOFFICE!

NATURALLY!

.... and WHAT returns Mr. Rowberry and every exhibitor will get WHEN HE PLAYS.....

KISS OF DEATH
VICTOR MATURE
BRIAN DONLEVY • COLEEN GRAY

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS
TECHNICOLOR
BETTY GRABLE • DAN DAILEY

THE FOXES OF HARROW
REX HARRISON • MAUREEN O'HARA

NIGHTMARE ALLEY
TYRONE POWER • JOAN BLONDELL
COLEEN GRAY • HELEN WALKER

DAISY KENYON
JOAN CRAWFORD
DANA ANDREWS • HENRY FONDA

THE SNAKE PIT
OLIVIA DeHAVILLAND
MARK STEVENS

FOREVER AMBER
TECHNICOLOR
LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE
RICHARD GREENE • GEORGE SANDERS

GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT
GREGORY PECK • DOROTHY McGUIRE
JOHN GARFIELD

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE
TECHNICOLOR
TYRONE POWER
JEAN PETERS • CESAR ROMERO

... from 20 Century-Fox

Coming Events

Aug. 11—Motion Picture Foundation area organizational meeting, Hotel Astor, New York.

Aug. 12-13—M-G-M annual meeting of its Canadian sales force, Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Aug. 12-14 — Southeastern Theatre Owners Association convention, Alcazar Hotel, Miami.

Aug. 14-Sept. 10—International Film Festival, Venice, Italy.

Aug. 18-19—Annual fall managers meeting of Fox Midwest, Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City.

Sept. 19-20—American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association joint membership meeting to consider ratification of a resolution to unite the two organizations. Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Sept. 24-29—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1 — Kansas-Missouri Theatre Asociation for Kansas and Western Missouri annual convention, Philips Hotel, Kansas City.

'Petrillo Ascendancy Brought Difficulties'

Los Angeles, Aug. 7.—The House Labor Subcommittee, probing union practices, today confined its hearing to testimony on American Federation of Musicians dealings with television and FM (frequency modulation) companies. Lewis Allen Weiss, chief executive of Don Lee Broadcasting, asserting that AFM had enforced payment of $12,000 for FM re-broadcasting of Eastern radio programs over 43 Coast stations, said difficulties with the union dated from the installation of the James C. Petrillo regime. He expressed hope that the Taft-Hartley Labor Law would correct present conditions.

B'way Theatre Closes

The Broadway Theatre, New York, was closed last night for a short period to permit alterations, the United Artists home office announced. Reopening date will be announced shortly, UA, which leases the house, said.

CLUE TO A HIT!
1
GREEN FOR DANGER
is a MUST SEE!
See it two or three times. you'll be glad if you do!"
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING MAGAZINE
THE SCREEN'S UNPARALLELED
ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

Frank Heads SMPE Convention Groups

Loren L. Ryder, president of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, has announced the complete list of committees to handle the 62nd semi-annual convention of the society, which will feature a theater engineering conference and an educational-scientific exhibit, to be held Oct. 20-24 at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here.

Officers in charge, in addition to Ryder, include Donald F. Hyndman, past-president of the society; Earl I. Sponable, executive vice-president; John A. Maurer, engineering vice-president; M. R. Boyer, financial vice-president; C. R. Keith, editorial vice-president; W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president; G. T. Lorance, secretary, and E. A. Bertram, treasurer.

James Frank, Jr., chairman of the Atlantic Coast section, is general convention chairman and in charge of local arrangements.

Gordon A. Chambers is chairman of the papers committee, with R. T. Van Niman, Herbert Barnett, N. L. Simmons, and H. S. Walker as vice-chairmen.

The theater engineering conference papers committee is headed by Leonard Satz, chairman, and includes Martin F. Bennett, auditorium design; Charles Bachman, floor coverings; Donald E. Hyndman, television; Paul J. Larsen, television projection; W. W. Lozier, lighting; Charles S. Perkins, acoustics; Harry Anderson, safety and maintenance; and Seymour Seider, ventilating and air-conditioning.

W. C. Kunzmann is chairman of the registration and information committee; Lester B. Isaac, luncheon and banquet; Oscar F. Neu, hotel and transportation; Lee E. Jones, membership and subscription; Harry B. Braun, public-address system.

The scientific and educational exhibit, being managed Robert T. Kenworthy, has W. W. Simmons as chairman, assisted by J. W. Services and Sidney B. Moss.

H. F. Heidegger is chairman of the 35mm. projection program committee, and M. W. Palmer heads the 16mm. committee.

General office administration is being handled by Boyce Nemec, executive secretary, and staff headed by Tom LoGiudice, staff engineer; Margaret C. Kelly, office manager, and Helen M. Stote, editor of the society's *Journal*.

Harold Desfor is publicity chairman, assisted by Leonard Bidwell and Don Gillette.

Mexican Stations to Ban Obscene Shows

Mexico City, Aug. 7.—Operators of all radio stations here have pledged the Ministry of Communications and Public Works, which controls radio in this country, that they would ban all programs that are immoral or in bad taste.

Eight local radio stations were recently fined for broadcasting offensive material.

Gilbert Quits Film Firm

Marc Gilbert has resigned as officer and director of Trans International Pictures Corp. of California and is no longer affiliated with that organization.

Approve Production Of 3 German Films

Washington, Aug. 7.—Approval has been given for the production of three German films in the British zone in Germany, the War Department announced today.

The Department also reported that under a mutual agreement between the British and Soviet zones in Germany, the Russians have sent five prints each of five pictures into the British zone and the British would send a similar number to the Soviet zone.

RKO Radio Forms 3 Promotion Depts.

RKO Radio's advertising, publicity and exploitation departments will hereafter function as three divisions, it was announced here yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, vice-president and vice-chairman of the board.

Coordinated under the personal supervision of Depinet, the divisions will operate as follows: advertising will be headed by S. Barret McCormick; publicity will be headed by Paul Hollister, and field exploitation by Terry Turner.

McCormick, who formerly was director of both advertising and publicity, has been with RKO for over 15 years. He has a background of theatre operation, distribution and advertising experience.

Hollister joined RKO as Eastern studio representative over a year ago. In addition to his studio duties, which will continue, he has been active in special publicity programs and projects since joining the company.

Turner has headed the RKO Radio field exploitation staff for some 10 years.

According to Depinet, with the great number of pictures forthcoming from the studio and its independent producing affiliates, the work of promotion must be more specialized. To accomplish the maximum of results each phase of promotion will be handled by a department giving individualized attention to the advertising, publicity and exploitation of each picture.

MPEA Austria Unit Wants Independence

Washington, Aug. 7. — Motion Picture Export Association, Austria, Inc., has requested an independent release schedule for Austria, the War Department said today.

Representatives of MPEA, Austria, Inc., also have requested approval of 50 film titles for distribution in Austria.

MPEA's request will go to the reorientation branch of the War Department's Civil Affairs Division and to the State Department, War Department spokesmen said.

Set Distribution Deal

Mexico City, Aug. 7. — Producciones Grovas, producing-distributing company, has concluded a deal with Discina International Films Corp. for the distribution throughout the Americas of French films of the latter.

Radio 'Mock Trial' Tied to RKO Film

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 7.—Henry Fonda will go on trial for murder in a unique "mock ceremony" over Station WOKO next Monday evening in a continuation of "The Long Night," which opened at the Palace yesterday. The RKO Radio picture ends with Fonda being driven to bay by an police and his fiancee urging him to surrender as a killer.

Three prominent Albany attorneys will participate along with the Blackfriars, local dramatic group. Daniel Prior, noted trial lawyer, will be judge, Assistant District Attorney Howard Koreman will prosecute, and James Drislane, county commander of the American Legion, will defend.

Arranged by Maurice Iassero, RKO field man, in an expansion of six transcribed programs by "The Long Night" cast for two Schenectady stations, the "mock trial" is also tied in with features in *The Knickerbocker News*.

SRO 'Bombarded' by Release Bids: Agnew

Selznick Releasing Organization has been "bombarded" with applications from independent producers who want the company to release their product, Neil Agnew, SRO president, reported here yesterday following his return from the Coast. As yet, he said, the company has closed deals with none.

"We are in the market for very, very few top pictures," the SRO distribution chief said, adding that "we have enough product of our own for the next 18 months." Any pictures the company will take on for outsiders will have to be "top," Agnew said, "because we want to operate that way." The company does not want "to make any mistakes," he added. If the right product is not available, "we can get along nicely on our own," he said.

Says 200 U.S. Films Needed in Hungary

Asserting that 200 American films would meet the needs of exhibitors in Hungary, Andrew Vita, operator of the 1,000-seat Stefania Theatre in Budapest, reports that the Motion Picture Export Association has released only 60 pictures in the current year and plans to release only 80 or 90 next year. Vita, who also has distribution interests, is in New York on a film-buying trip.

Inspects WB Exchange

In order to get a first-hand impression of an American film exchange, the United Nations delegation from Czechoslovakia yesterday made a tour of inspection of the Warner Brothers branch here. Arthur Weinberger, office manager, conducted the group. Arrangements also were made for the UN delegation to visit the Warner film laboratory in Brooklyn under the supervision of Joe Spray.

Rites for Mrs. Schneider

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Riverside Chapel, here, for Mrs. Sarah Schneider who died Wednesday. She was the mother of Abe Schneider, Columbia vice-president and treasurer. Interment was in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. Four daughters also survive.

Scores of Theatre Projects Approved in Washington

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—A new $62,500 theatre for Griffith Theatres, in Kermit, Tex., is among the scores of theatre construction and repair projects recently approved by the U[illegible] Housing Expediter.

[illegible]r approved projects were: Joe Pharo, Wilmington, N. C., theatre completion; M. C. Bickel, Bemus Point, N. Y., drive-in; Louis K. Degman, Highway 111, near Palm Springs, Cal., drive-in; Lloyd A. Moore, Umatilla, Ore., theatre; H. M. Holland, Portland, Ore., theatre; United Theatres, Inc., New Orleans, La., repair and remodel theatre; The Frankroy Co., Bedford, O., theatre alterations; Sharon Village, Sharon, N. D., theatre; and Paul D. Cooper and Ralph H. Allen, Baxter County, Ark., drive-in.

Also, Troy Civic Improvement Co., Troy, Ill., theatre; A. E. Garansson, Wamego, Kans., theatre; Peerless Corp., Camden County, N. J., alter and repair theatre; Kansas Drive-In, Inc., Wyandotte County, Kans., drive-in; and Keith R. Gomm and A. Gorin Steed, Weber County, Utah, theatre.

Also, T. H. Vaughn, Elmore City, Okla., theatre; William H. Oldknow, San Diego County, Cal., drive-in; Stanley C. Dilley, Bear Lake, Mich., theatre; Creime, Fasken and Kingman, Chelan, Wash., remodel building for theatre; Veigh Cummings, Heber, Utah, theatre and store building; J. Fred Hall, Akron, Colo., theatre addition; Frank Garcia, Kelseyville, Cal., theatre.

Also, Mason Shaw, Saratoga, Cal., combination theatre, store building and apartment; J. E. Friedrich, Monterey, Cal., theatre completion; Albert Heffron, Coopersville, Mich., theatre; Alfred Lienhardt, Jr., New Glarus, Wics., theatre; Robert Z. Glass, Houston, quonset hut theatre; and H. M. Clark, Monahans, Tex., theatre.

Also, M. P. Defea, Milbank, S. D., theatre; Robert Louis Gibbs, Tallahassee, Fla., theatre; St. Charles Lodge, Moss Point, Miss., theatre and lodge; E. A. Killian, Great Falls, S. C., combination theatre and garage; Theatre Investment Co., Enumclaw, Wash., conversion of legion hall into theatre; Paul V. Bell, Bellevue, Neb., theatre.

Also, Warner Brothers, theatre remodeling, State College, Pa.; Steve Chorak, new theatre, Los Angeles, Cal.; E. R. Custer, Charleston, West Virginia, open air drive-in theatre; Silver City Theatre, Alexandria, La., new theatre; Cannon Mills Co., Kannapolis, N. C., rebuild theatre; William Thieman, new theatre, Montague, Mich.

Also, A. D. Anderson, completion of theatre, Ohino, Cal.; Lincoln Realty Corp., foundations for open air drive-in, suburban Omaha, Neb.; and James D. Harlow, new theatre, Llano, Texas.

Resume Construction Of Memphis Theatre

MEMPHIS, Aug. 7.—Construction of the Hyde Ark Theatre, for Negroes, has been resumed here with the approval of the Civilian Production Administration. Work had begun on the house early in the year but was called to a halt on March 26 by CPA which originally had classified it as a borderline case.

A. W. Russell and Associates are the owners of the theatre which will seat 500.

Heyder Promoted

SEATTLE, Aug. 7.—Ted Heyder, former assistant manager of the Capitol Theatre in Juneau, has been named manager of the Tower Theatre in Bremerton.

Tradeshow 'Magic Town'

RKO Radio will hold an advance screening of Robert Riskin's "Magic Town" on Aug. 20, at 10:30 A.M. in the Normandie Theatre here.

'Separate Category' Plan Rests with SAG

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Fate of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association's proposal for establishment of a "separate category" for independent films budgeted under $100,000, appeared to rest tonight on the outcome of discussions by the Screen Actors Guild membership. The mass meeting was called primarily for canvassing one-year contracts recently negotiated with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Although the SAG board, in common with representatives of other guilds and unions, have manifested readiness to agree in principle with the IMPPA proposals, the SAG action tonight is expected to influence the final result. It is generally believed that other guilds and unions will follow the lead set by SAG.

Short Subjects . . .

"Pet Peeves"

(*M-G-M*)

The provocative Mr. Pete Smith has screened an assortment of pet peeves. Included is the woman who talks on the public telephone for hours and hours; the chap who buys a three-cent stamp with a $10 bill; the magazine-thumber who looks but never buys. Running time, nine minutes.

"For Sentimental Reasons"

(*Columbia*)

With Dick Liebert at the organ, aided by the Song Spinners, the hit song of this *Community Sing* release is "I Love You for Sentimental Reasons." Other songs are "Sonata," "Symphony," "It's a Good Day," "Among My Souvenirs," and "At Sundown." Running time, 10½ minutes.

"Bronco Babes"

(*Universal*)

Among the items shown in this *Variety View* are youngsters at Carlton, Ore. who learn to ride horseback at a very early age; at Cuero, Tex., the local cattle auction is a Friday feature; heat, light and power are free to residents of Ten Thousand Smokes; a gingerbread castle at Hamburg, N. J. Running time, nine minutes.

"Cad and Caddy"

(*Paramount*)

Little Lulu goes to work as a caddy in this subject. The man who hires her is sorry, right from the very start, that he ever saw Lulu. She drives the harrassed golfer's score higher and higher before his blood pressure succumbs to a final stroke. In color. Running time, eight minutes.

"Sportsman's Playground"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Such diversions as horse shows, golfing, fishing, boating and tent pegging, are all in a day's sport in Puerto Rico and the nearby Virgin Islands, as this *Sports Parade* reel shows. In Technicolor. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Mighty Mouse Meets Deadeye Dick"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

The Terrytoon subject puts Mighty Mouse against Deadeye Dick, the roughest, toughest badman of the West. When Deadeye comes roaring through the town, not even the posse can stop him as he shoots up Gallahan's saloon. But Mighty Mouse puts an end to his villainy. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"I'll Be Skiing You"

(*Paramount*)

Popeye and his old nemesis, Bluto, are still at it. Popeye is trying to teach Olive Oyl to ski, but Bluto has other plans. He knocks out the sailor and makes off with the girl. Aided by his traditional spinach, Popeye tracks Bluto down and lets him have it. Running time, eight minutes

"A Summer's Tale"

(*RKO Radio*)

The central character of this *Sportscope* is a baby fox who has lost its mother and must fight for its own food and shelter. With the entire setting laid in the forest, the subject becomes the story of the struggle in nature for survival. Running time, nine minutes.

"Growing Pains"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Henry Hawk, out to get his first chicken, becomes the dupe of a rooster. Bewildered as to whether the rooster, a cat, or a dog is a chicken, he solves his problem by making all three sit up until dawn and watching for who crows. A *Merrie Melodies* subject in Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Manhattan Island"

(*Paramount*)

A new cartoon technique is introduced in this *Noveltoons* short, in which actual backgrounds are combined with animation. A bouncing ball leads in group singing of "Sidewalks of New York," "Penthouse Serenade," and "Forty-Second Street." Landmarks of Manhattan are shown. In color. Running time, nine minutes.

Repeat Performance

"YOUR MUST-SEE LIST...

A picture with an idea is Eagle-Lion's

Repeat Performance

a movie that glued you to your seat, with Joan Leslie, newcomer Richard Basehart, Louis Hayward and a good cast." — GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

"PICTURE WORTH SEEING

Repeat Performance

A fine cast and an unusual story mark this one. Watch newcomer Richard Basehart—a wonderful actor who will go far." — LIBERTY

EAGLE LION FILMS PRESENTS

LOUIS HAYWARD

JOAN LESLIE

RICHARD BASEHART

"Repeat Performance"

with

VIRGINIA FIELD · TOM CONWAY

BENAY VENUTA · NATALIE SCHAFER

Screenplay by Walter Bullock

Based on a Novel by William O'Farrell

Produced by AUBREY SCHENCK

Directed by ALFRED WERKER

BRYAN FOY in charge of Production

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

"Desert Fury" stepped out front this week with a gross of $33,500. A large number of conventions in town helped box-offices. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 6:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) and VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I) — ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.) and STEPCHILD (PRC)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $33,500. (Average: $20,000)

FANTASIA (RKO Radio) — UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (55c-85c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M) and THUNDERBOLT (Mono.) — FOX (4,651) (65c-85c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $23,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average $19,500)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,200. (Average $9,000)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) With vaudeville. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $23,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I) —HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c). Gross: $14,300. (Average: $7,500)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.) — ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)

BUFFALO

The weather was hot and humid. Grosses were uneven. "Dear Ruth" held up well at the Great Lakes. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 9:

COPACABANA (UA) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $13,300. (Average: $16,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

HUCKSTERS M-G-M) — TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)

IVY (U-I) and GAS HOUSE KIDS GO WEST (PRC)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

OTHER LOVE (UA) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—BUFFALO (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $19,000)

POSSESSED (WB) — HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)

Film Sets New Record

The opening-day record of "Going My Way" at the Paramount Theatre here was topped by 850 admissions by "Welcome Stranger" which drew 21,128 on Wednesday. By noon yesterday, 5,760 tickets were sold. The film also set a new one-hour ticket sale record of 2,425. To accommodate the crowds, the house continues to open at eight A.M., with six shows daily.

'Roosevelt' at Globe

"The Roosevelt Story", new semi-documentary film covering 40 years of the late President's career, will have its world premiere as scheduled on Aug. 21 at the Globe Theatre here but a scheduled simultaneous showing at the Republic, also on Broadway, has been cancelled, it was announced yesterday.

Ad Code Campaign

(*Continued from page* 1)

tions program, and appointed members to handle individual facets of the drive. Schlaifer announced the start of the campaign at a meeting held at the St. Moritz Hotel, here.

With the objective of making high advertising standards effective throughout the entire industry, through a process of self-regulation to assure decency and good taste in advertising, the committee heads who will carry through the campaign's details are as follows: independent exhibitor contacts, Maurice Bergman, U-I; circuit exhibitor contacts, Curtis Mitchell, Paramount; exchange area contacts, S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio; trade press, Si Seadler, M-G-M; press book coverage, Ben Serkowich, Columbia; independent producers, Steve Edwards, Republic; vendors, Paul Benjamin, National Screen Service; radio, Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists; and non-trade publishers, Mort Blumenstock, Warners.

Full information concerning the system of self-regulation of advertising will be brought to the attention of all elements of the industry as well as the public at large. Schlaifer reiterated the Advertising Advisory Council's determination to "carry the doctrine of self-responsibility to every segment, every individual and to the outermost periphery of our art."

Others present at the meeting, in addition to those already named were: Hank Linet, U-I; Stanley Shuford, Paramount; Howard LeSieur, UA; Ulric Bell, 20th-Fox, and Tom Waller, MPA.

$7,885,000 Para.

(*Continued from page* 1)

non-consolidated subsidiaries. Earnings for the corresponding quarter last year were estimated at $10,205,000, including $1,054,000 share of undistributed earnings of partially owned non-consolidated subsidiaries.

Earnings for the six months ended July 5 on the same basis are estimated at $17,407,000, including $3,189,000 share of undistributed earnings, which compares with corresponding 1946 earnings of $21,792,000, including $4,140,000 share of undistributed earnings.

The $7,885,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the quarter represent $1.11 per share on the 7,118,872 shares outstanding and in the hands of the public on July 5, 1947, which compares with $1.36 per share for the quarter ended June 29, 1946, on 7,504,272 shares, which represents the 3,752,136 shares then outstanding adjusted for the two-for-one stock split in July 1946. Computed on the same basis the $17,407,000 of estimated combined consolidated and share of undistributed earnings for the six months of 1947 represent $2.45 per share, which compares with $2.90 per share for the first six months of 1946.

The board of directors yesterday declared the regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on the common stock payable Sept. 26, to stockholders of record Sept. 5.

Deuse with Hoffman

Patricia M. Deuse, formerly of San Francisco, a radio commentator and writer, has joined the staff of Richard H. Hoffman, public relations counselor, to take charge of the radio, television and film promotion departments.

Discuss Juvenile Delinquency Films

A large group of leading judiciary figures and penalogists met yesterday at Lloyd's here to view "Shoe-Shine," Italian film on juvenile delinquency, and to discuss plans for making similar films here.

Among those present were John Warren Hill, presiding justice of the Domestic Relations Court; Dorris Clarke, chief probation officer, City Magistrate's Court; Commissioner Nolan of Police Athletic League; Frank Cohen, director of the Youth House, and representatives of the District Attorney's office, Society for the Prevention of Crimes, National Prison Association, Osborne Society, Legal Aid Society, and the State Training Schools.

Managerial Changes

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 7.—Three theatre managerial changes have been made here. George Booth was named manager of the Rio, Monterey; Robert Corbin, formerly manager of the RKO Golden Gate, has joined Lippert Theatres; Bucky Williams, for many years general manager of the Oakland and San Francisco Newsreel theatres, has resigned his post with Goldberg Theatres to join Lippert.

Fashion Films Formed

HARTFORD, Aug. 7.—Fashion Films, Inc., New Haven, new Connecticut corporation, has filed a certificate of organization with the Secretary of State, here, listing as president C. Kenneth Clark; treasurer-secretary, Carl B. Clark; director, Charles Varing.

Warner Buys 'Violence'

Warner Brothers has acquired "Act of Violence," melodrama by Robert Richards, as a starring vehicle for Dane Clark. Jerry Wald will produce. The company also has assigned Alex Gottlieb to produce "Daddies," the David Belasco stage play written by John L. Hobble.

"Deep Valley" Set

"Deep Valley," first regular national release by Warner Brothers in 1947-48, has been set for general distribution Sept. 1. It follows the special release of "Life With Father," which begins advance engagements Aug. 15.

'Earth' to Music Hall

Columbia's "Down to Earth" will have its New York premiere at Radio City Music Hall immediately following current run of "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer." The picture will have about six other openings elsewhere this month.

Newsreel Season to Start

Paramount News' new season will start Aug. 26, when the first issue of the reel for 1947-48 will be shipped to the company's branches from New York. The current season ends Aug. 22 with the shipment of issue No. 104 on the 1946-47 program.

20th-Fox Tradeshowing

"Mother Wore Tights," starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey, will be tradeshown here on Aug. 22 and in other key cities between Aug. 21 and Aug. 29, 20th Century-Fox announced.

U-I Changes

(*Continued from page* 1)

be made by U-I to modify clearances in order to expedite dating and liquidation, as it is his opinion that all exhibitors ask for too much clearance.

Scully emphasized that the curtailment of revenue from England, together with the general difficulty in obtaining funds from the balance of the world market, would demand a closer cooperation between distribution and exhibition. In his issued statement, these three points were emphasized:

"Exhibitors must recognize that the general economy of the American film industry must be modified to meet the critical situation that has developed in England and the world in general.

"To cushion the shock caused by this loss of revenue, exhibitors must take the position that they are partners in a common cause, and that they cannot walk away from the responsibility to help in increasing domestic revenues.

Cost Realignment 'Impossible'

"There must be an immediate recognition of the fact that it is impossible to realign costs instantaneously, as top product with top personalities and box-office properties have greatly increased in cost."

U-I's sales department has already been advised about the extra load that will have to be carried in this country, the company said. To facilitate changes in sales policy and general methods of distribution, Scully said that the entire sales cabinet would meet with him and studio officials on the Coast within the next week in order to formulate U-I's new policies.

Scully emphasized the point that U-I has now completed its transformation to a program of limited production of high budget films, and that this retooling has meant the investment of millions of dollars in order to accomplish the transformation from a program that meant the elimination of small budget pictures.

U-I in 'Strategic Position'

He stated that the type of product that is forthcoming from the studio, and which he will review during his visit there, places the company in a strategic position, not only to absorb the present shock, but to fortify itself against any further impending change in the economic conditions of the world market.

He pointed out that in the next six months over $18,000,000 investment in product would be ready for distribution.

Maurice A. Bergman, U-I Eastern advertising director, will accompany Scully to the studio, leaving here tonight. Advertising plans will be formulated at the conferences, with John Joseph, national director of advertising, presiding at the advertising meetings.

Oldfield Rejoins Army

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Barney Oldfield, Warner Brothers publicist since the war, will reenter the Army next week as a lieutenant colonel on the staff of Major General F. L. Parks, head of the War Department's public information division.

Soviet Film Program

A Soviet film documentary program featuring "Pageant of Russia," in the new Soviet chrome-color process, will open at the Stanley here on Saturday.

10 Months' Supply

(*Continued from page* 1)

nies find themselves confronted with two singularly important questions: What influence will the British duty action have in other countries, particularly those in the "British economic orbit," with respect to the imposition of film import duties? Will the British action affect the playing in English films in the U. S., and what about the "moral promises" of increased playing time which most of the larger American circuits gave J. Arthur Rank during his recent visit here?

There will be "repercussions" in other countries, in the opinion of some foreign department officials here. They foresee the imposition of film import duties by other governments, such as India, Australia, Denmark, Portugal, South Africa and "possibly" Spain as nations which will very likely follow Britain's example.

Few Films from Loew's

Loew's is perhaps most poorly prepared for the new British tax situation in terms of number of films tax-free and ready for release in England. It has "just a couple," according to Morton A. Spring, Loew's International vice-president.

Paramount has about seven or eight ready-to-release films on hand in England, according to a company spokesman. Ten or 12 is the RKO Radio figure. Warners reports "about 12"; Universal-International has six, and 20th Century-Fox has about 10. United Artists has 15. Monogram-Allied Artists reports 40, and explains this large figure as due to the fact that it is company practice to ship prints of films to England as soon as they are finished on the Coast. Eagle-Lion has four, PRC has 22, and Republic has several."

British playing time in the U. S. will not be affected immediately, it is believed. A sudden cut-down in showings of English product here would be interpreted as retaliatory action, in the opinion of foreign department executives. Generally there was disinclination to comment on whether U. S. affiliated circuits will feel bound to their tacit promises to Rank to give his product increased playing time.

News Shocks Industry

Generally speaking, the industry was shocked by yesterday's news of the duty imposition, but could only shrug its shoulders and accept the action at its face value—a matter of economic life and death for Britain. Because the British Treasury-ordered duty has already been issued by Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton, it was doubted whether the subject remains open to negotiation by the American industry or its representatives. Because of this the principal hope of any possible modification of the duty appeared to rest with U. S. Treasury and State Department officials in Washington.

Secretary of State Marshall has indicated that the question of relaxing some of the terms of America's $3,750,000,000 loan to Great Britain was primarily a financial one to be dealt with by experts of the Treasury Department. Marshall has announced a forthcoming Anglo-American conference on liberalizing the loan terms, and has said he did not think Congressional approval would be necessary. He indicated that the Treasury Department's opinion would prevail on the question.

The entire industry situation will be explored at a meeting at the Motion Picture Association offices here today, to be presided over by MPA president Eric A. Johnston.

GRAND CENTRAL AREA
Opposite Chrysler Building
a Priceless Location
Two 4-story buildings
137-139 East 43rd St.
For Sale or Lease
L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners
565 Fifth Ave., N. Y. 17

Film 'Famine'

(*Continued from page* 1)

Frank Hill, secretary of the Kinematograph Renters Society, who sees the trade completely enveloped in international complications.

It is generally accepted in the trade here that there is bound to be drastic cuts in the number of American films imported, irrespective of any thought of retaliation on the part of the American distributors. It was pointed out that it simply would not be economically feasible for American companies to pay a 300 per cent tax on their secondary features and that large numbers of such features will not be sent here.

A Treasury spokesman confirmed that films already in England will not be subject to the new tax. He added that therefore some months will elapse before imposition of the new duty will act to reduce the amount of outgoing remittances.

"If the Americans want to keep their foreign markets," the Treasury spokesman said, "they must be prepared to take a cut in profits. We don't want to deprive the public of its entertainment, but there is no alternative."

There has been no official comment from the House of Commons as of now on the new films duty.

DeVry Foreign Deals

CHICAGO, Aug. 7. — Distribution deals for the entire DeVry line of motion picture equipment have been closed in Italy, Portugal and Spain by Norman D. Olsen, Sr., DeVry Corp. export manager, he disclosed here upon his return from a six-week global tour.

Name Heidt Manager

Christian Heidt III has been appointed manager of exchange operations for Films, Inc., here. He was previously associated for seven years with 20th Century-Fox in Buffalo, Boston, Philadelphia, and New York.

Mono. Names Holland

PORTLAND, ORE., Aug. 7.—Harold Holland has been appointed Monogram salesman in this area, succeeding Walter Wessling who died recently, it is announced by Howard Stubbins, franchise owner.

German Children's Show

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7.—Some 197,057 German children and youths saw 697 special film performances in the U. S. occupied area in Germany during June, the War Department reports.

Industry Shares Off For Second Day

Industry shares were depressed for the second straight day yesterday on the New York Stock Exchange, following the British proposal to limit remittances on American films to 25 per cent. 20th Century-Fox and Universal Pictures declined a point and a quarter, while Loew's Inc. dropped a point. Fractions were shaved from Paramount, RKO and Warner Brothers.

US Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

they said the Government has always held it cannot protest any tax that is not discriminatory.

Treasury and State Department officials both admitted that the step was a clear violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the British loan agreement, but indicated that this step away from freer world trade was a "necessary evil" in view of the present British economic condition.

"It's more important that we help Britain stay alive than protect any specific industry or industries," is the way one official put it. He said the British Government must be left to work out its solution as best it could, without U. S. interference.

It is still too early, officials said, to state whether any effort will be made to get a reduction of the tax in the forthcoming talks on relaxing terms of the British loan, but they indicated such a course was not likely.

Hollywood, Caught in Pincers by UK Action, Speculates on Effect

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 7.—Recently mushrooming confidence that September would usher in an upward trend in production activity, with studios intent upon building up backlogs to offset shortened runs, sagged today in the wake of news dispatches to the effect that the British action on imports is in the nature of a tax rather than a "freeze." Hollywood hummed with speculation regarding the possible effect on the budgeting of films already in the blueprint stage, with reduction all along the line considered likely.

Production executives emphasized the fact that prospects for a severe drop in revenue from Britain coincides with a sharp increase in Hollywood production costs entailed in new labor contracts recently granted and others still in negotiation.

Jackson Park Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

five majors and Balaban and Katz and Warner circuits, are now expected to appeal to the Supreme Court.

If the Supreme Court rules in favor of Jackson Park a complete shake-up of the so-called "Chicago system of film distribution" will result.

Sponsor Benefit Game

BALTIMORE, Aug. 7.—The Variety Clubs of Baltimore and Washington will sponsor the third annual benefit football game between the Redskins and Green Bay Packers in Baltimore on Sept. 21. Proceeds will be used for boys' club activities in the two cities. Last year's game netted $55,868.

British Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

foot, heretofore imposed on imported films.

The value of a film is provisionally calculated by the anticipated net proceeds from the film in Britain. One-fourth of the proceeds will represent the value of the film and the other three-fourths will be payable as duty.

Duplicate copies of films which have borne this duty will remain chargeable at the old rate of one penny per foot for such duplicates.

An example of the working of the new tax was prepared here today by Fayette W. Allport, Motion Picture Association of America representative in London.

For purposes of illustration Allport used the figure of $1,200,000 as the anticipated gross for a picture being imported into Britain. He maintains, first, that 30 per cent should be deducted for distribution costs, or $360,000. Of the balance of $840,000, only 25 per cent, or $210,000, could be remitted to America. The 300 per cent duty on the remittance would mean that a total of $630,000 would go to the British Treasury.

U. S. Pictures Lead In Mexico City

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 7.—With 131 films, America led in number of pictures released here in the first seven months of 1947, the Municipal Amusements Supervision Department has announced.

Some 215 films were released during that period, a new high. Mexico was second with 37 films. Then came Argentina, 27; England, 13; Chile, 3; France and Spain, two each.

$ WATCH IT GROW! $
MR. EXHIBITOR!
• INTERSTATE CIRCUIT
• FOX WEST COAST
• FOX MIDWEST
• WARNER CIRCUIT
have booked
RED STALLION
THE GREATEST ACTION THRILLER OF OUR TIME in CINECOLOR!
HAVE YOU?

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
July 6	KEEPER OF THE BEES Michael Duane Gloria Henry D				GASHOUSE KIDS GO WEST Gashouse Kids Chili Williams C—61 min. (711) (Rev. 7/31/47)	RUSTLERS OF DEVIL'S CANYON Alan Lane O—58 min. (666)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)				
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (726) (Rev. 5/20/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)		THE TRESPASSER Dale Evans D—71 min. (619) (Rev. 7/16/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	(July Releases) THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (Color) Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)		
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (727) (Rev. 6/12/47)	THUNDER-BOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (4624) (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754) (Rev. 8/1/47)	SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) (Rev. 7/31/47) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)	(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (618) (Rev. 6/2/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (723) (Rev. 11/3/38)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		(Eagle-Lion) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min. (Rev. 8/4/47)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)		GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (619) (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.		NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)			WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)		(Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.		FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.	(Block 1:47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(August Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)		(August Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	(August Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	(Eagle-Lion) GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D	SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Aug. 24		ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	RAILROADED John Ireland D	ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL Monte Hale O—64 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)		HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)		(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)				RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D		SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D						CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D			
Sept. 14								(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)			

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62, NO. 29 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

Capital Sees Some Hope for UK Tax Relief

Believe Loan Talks, Home Pressure May Force It

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10. — The forthcoming Anglo-U.S. talks on relaxing the British Loan Agreement may hold out some hope for America's film makers, officials here believe.

Here's how they figure:

The British undoubtedly decided on the *ad valorem* tax instead of the remittance freeze advocated by the Motion Picture Association largely because the freeze would have been a clear violation of the British Loan provision requiring free convertibility of sterling into dollars. Relaxing this requirement is one of the key concessions the U. S. will be called upon to make in the coming talks. If it is relaxed to the point where a remittance freeze would no longer be a violation of the Loan Agreement, the Attlee government might be willing to switch from the tax to the remittance freeze. And U. S. officials then count on stiff protests by MPA here and by the British film industry to bring the freeze down from the 75 per cent announced in London some-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Talk Golden State Sale: 12 Millions

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 10.—A deal under which Robert L. Lippert's Lippert Theatres and the Reynolds Pen Co. will purchase jointly Golden States Theatres, is understood to be in process of negotiation. It is said that Lippert and Reynolds will include in the deal purchase of George Mann's 25-house Redwood circuit. Sale price is reported to be $12,000,000, half of

(*Continued on page* 8)

Blumenstock Cites Merchandising Need

More intensive "point of sale" merchandising of pictures, through closer cooperation with exhibitors and better timing of main exploitation activities with actual playdates, is essential to bring in the extra revenue needed to offset increasing production and oper-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Film Shipments to Britain Halted by U.S. Companies

Action to Continue Indefinitely; Some Independents Ready to Follow Suit; Johnston Scores British Tax Strongly

The eight major American distribution companies have voted to discontinue immediately all shipments of their features and short subjects to England for an indefinite period of time.

The action was taken at a meeting here on Friday of the companies as members of the Motion Picture Export Association. The companies, which voted unanimously to halt film shipments to Britain are: Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warners.

Monogram, which recently joined the MPEA, is expected to follow the lead of the other companies and company officials in Hollywood were awaiting word on the subject from Steve Broidy, president, now in London with Norton V. Ritchey, foreign manager.

In Hollywood, special board meetings of film companies, to confer this

(*Continued on page* 3)

British Tax Hits 4 Mono. Films First

London, Aug. 10.—Steve Broidy, president of Monogram and Allied Artists, who brought four films with him when he arrived here Wednesday from New York on the *Queen Elizabeth,* was the first American to become subject to the new 75 per cent British film tax.

Broidy claims the films were brought ashore with a Board of Trade license before the new ad valorem duty went into effect, but had not cleared through customs in advance of the deadline and thus became subject to the new tax.

Ad Code Draws Exhibitors' Support

Endorsement of the revised Advertising Code by various leading exhibitors was reported at the weekend by the Motion Picture Association, as the campaign to publicize the program took on new momentum.

Expressions of support came from

(*Continued on page* 8)

SAG Rejects IMPPA 'Category' Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—Proposals by the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association for a "separate category," covering employment on pictures budgeted under $100,000, have been rejected by the Screen Actors Guild membership in a mass meeting on this and other matters.

Action followed a report by the board on the IMPPA plan and SAG counter-proposals which IMPPA rejected on the eve of the meeting. SAG appointed a subcommittee to continue discussions with IMPPA, but declared no member of SAG will work for any IMPPA producer after Aug. 22, effective date of the Taft-Hartley law, unless a contract has been signed

(*Continued on page* 3)

Study Operating Revisions As British Revenue Ends

Home office study of company operations in the light of the loss of the $70,000,000-a-year British market is under way.

Hollywood will take the first scanning, it was indicated here, accompanied by unconfirmed reports of a production moratorium or a 30 per cent slash of production budgets.

Top company officials denied that any decisions of that kind have been made and indicated that their study would be thorough and would not be confined to production alone. No hasty edicts are likely to emerge.

It was pointed out that the full force of the British revenue loss may not be felt by the industry until early 1948, due to the presence in England of approximately 125 unplayed American pictures which will not be affected by the new 75 per cent tax there.

In addition, distributors' vaults in England are filled with pictures which can be drawn upon as reissues when the new product there has been exhausted. Remittances from all such films are unaffected by the *ad valorem* duty and can be returned to the United States.

Company officials also are not without hope that Britain will see fit to modify its confiscatory film tax, either in consequence of the forthcoming Washington conferences on liberalization of the terms of the British Loan Agreement or through fail-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Say US Films Vital To British Trade

U. S. product is "essential" to the maintenance of the United Kingdom's motion picture industry," according to the findings of a 21-page analysis of the situation prepared at the request of Eric A. Johnston by the New York

(*Continued on page* 3)

Columbia, Expecting Tax, Sent 6 to UK

Among the estimated 125 duty-free American films now in England awaiting release are eight owned by Columbia, six of which had been sent over in uncut versions in anticipation of the British Government's tax action.

As reported in *Motion Picture Daily* on Friday, the 125 are viewed by the industry as representing a six to 10 months supply.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, 20th Century-Fox executive producer, is here from Hollywood.

•

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram executive vice-president and treasurer, has returned to Hollywood from New York following a trip here occasioned by the death of his sister, MRS. HARVEY COOK.

•

ANDREW W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, and SAM SHAIN, exhibitor and public relations director, returned here Friday from Minneapolis.

•

NATE J. BLUMBERG, president of Universal, postponed his trip to the Coast from Friday to Wednesday. MATTY FOX, vice-president, will accompany him.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, returned here Friday from Detroit.

•

JAMES A. SIXSMITH, Paramount secretary-treasurer for Australia and New Zealand, arrived here over the weekend following a cross-country tour of Canada from the West Coast.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, Paramount Theatres Service Corp., vice-president, is in Springfield, Mass., for talks with SAM GOLDSTEIN, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres.

•

SYDNEY BOX and EARL ST. JOHN, accompanied by their wives, are en route here from England on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

•

LEWIS BLUMBERG, Prestige Pictures executive, required hospital treatment for fractures sustained in a sailboat accident last week.

•

RAY WALLACE, Tri-Theatres Circuit president, Alliance, O., and his family are vacationing in Atlantic City.

•

HAROLD MALONEY, manager of Loew's Poli, Worcester, and MRS. MALONEY are on vacation in New York.

•

NAT LEVY, Eastern division manager for RKO Radio, will return here today from Detroit.

•

JOE FIELDMAN, sales manager of Screen Guild in Atlanta, has resigned.

Stanley Meyer May Join U.A. Theatres

Stanley Meyer, who recently resigned as a district manager in Los Angeles for Fox West Coast, is slated to join United Artists Theatre Circuit in an executive capacity, it is learned.

Joseph M. Schenck, head of U. A. Theatres, who is here from the Coast, is scheduled to set the appointment within the next day or two.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

GRAVE as are the facts of the British tax situation, there are many in the industry who view the development as not without its redeeming aspects.

There are some, in fact, who sincerely believe the virtual loss of the British market (for that is what it amounts to) may be a blessing in disguise.

They believe that it may provide the shock which will jolt the industry, and particularly the production end of it, out of a condition and state of mind that promised to worsen instead of better as time goes on.

These people are not unmindful that the British 300 per cent ad valorem duty on American films is more than twice as severe as any restriction placed upon our films by that nation in wartime. They are not unmindful that it comes at a time when production costs and labor costs are at all-time highs for the industry and that theatre attendance here is at an uncertain stage.

Nor are they unmindful that the confiscatory British tax may be imposed by other important markets for our films within and even outside of the sterling bloc.

•

Many feel also that the British tax will in the long run prove of greater benefit to the American industry than would a compromise proposal "freezing" any such large percentage of earnings as might have been acceptable to the British Treasury.

That, many point out, contains the danger of holding the American industry in vassalage to Britain for many years to come. The blocked currency would hang over the heads of its American owners as a continuing threat, leaving them vulnerable to whatever condition might develop while, at the same time, it would soften the impact upon the trade here enough, perhaps, to prevent any lasting or effective re-ordering of Hollywood's house, and that of other areas within the industry which may be equally in need of it.

The present situation is almost a clean break.

It ends what many regard as the unhealthy dependence of the industry upon Britain for its profit, or the major part thereof.

It requires a new order in which domestic revenue will have to provide not only the operating costs of the industry but the major share of its profits as well.

Many believe that that is as it should be.

They are not uninterested in foreign markets and profits to be had therefrom. Far from it. They merely regard the situation which has existed heretofore, in which the industry was dependent for profitable operation on its exports, and on one country for almost 90 per cent of that profit, as basically unsound.

They believe that sensible, efficient operations in Hollywood could turn out better product which sold to both the trade and the public with more imagination than is expended on the general run of pictures today, could return a domestic profit which would free the industry for all time from a recurrence of such a "crisis" as that which confronts it today.

Foreign revenue then would merely swell industry profits—not account for them entirely.

That, you will hear it insisted, is the healthy order of every other large American industry with a comparable amount of export trade.

Perhaps they are right.

Certainly, the American petroleum, tobacco and other industries whose British trade is seriously affected by the economic emergency there, do not find themselves confronted in consequence by any such trade crisis as that created for this industry.

•

The main point to be made is that there is a job that needs to be done within the industry.

There was no apparent disposition to do it before Britain's Labor government acted.

Now it becomes a must.

It calls for new attitudes, new endeavors, new abilities, not only in Hollywood but all along the line.

Those in positions of responsibility, whether in production, distribution or exhibition, either will be showmen now or they will bow to those who are. The forces which now have been brought to bear will see to that.

It would seem to be apparent that all afflicted with the constipation of prosperity and easy-going are about to be called upon either to deliver or yield their thrones.

And what, it may be asked, is wrong with that?

Newsreel Parade

THE clash between Howard Hughes and Senator Brewster took top prominence in the newsreel. The trotting classic at Goshen, N. Y. and a woman bull-fighter in exhibition are also included. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 99—Howard Hughes and Senator Brewster in [illegible]ash. Trotting race at Goshen, N. Y. G[illegible]ll-fighter in France.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 297—Howard Hughes and Senator Brewster clash at Senate inquiry. Nazi stronghold blown up in Berlin. Wheat farmers arm to repel rustlers. Woman bull-fighter in exhibition. Hambletonian classic.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 99—Howard Hughes vs. Senator Brewster.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 102—Howard Hughes and Senator Brewster. The Hambletonian race at Goshen, N. Y.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 63—Charges and counter-charges fly between Howard Hughes and Senator Brewster during investigation. Hambletonian trotting classic at Goshen, N. Y. Ferrier wins St. Paul open golf championship.

Walsh to Appoint '306' Intervenor

Appointment of an IATSE international representative to take over negotiations for projectionists' Local No. 306 in their wage dispute with the Skouras, Loew, RKO and Randforce circuits against which a strike has been set for Sept. 1, will take place shortly, a 306 spokesman said at the weekend. 'IA' international president Richard F. Walsh is expected to name international vice-president Tom Shea as the negotiator.

Approval of a strike, which would affect a number of Broadway first-runs and hundreds of other New York theatres, came from the 306 membership about a week ago. The strike would involve more than 1,200 projectionists.

The local is seeking a 34 per cent wage increase and a five per cent welfare fund. Demands were submitted last May and negotiations dragged since then, climaxing in the strike threat.

SPG Meets Tonight On Lay-off Action

A membership meeting of the Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, CIO, will be held here tonight at the Hotel Piccadilly to consider action to be taken in regard to the lay-off of several 20th Century-Fox home office publicists.

SPG met with 20th Century-Fox officials on Friday, but both the SPG and company executives declined to comment.

Kelly to England

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, is scheduled to leave here for England by plane on Wednesday.

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Film Shares Still on Downward Trend

Industry shares continued to decline for the third day Friday on the New York Stock Exchange following the news from Britain. Twentieth Century-Fox fell a point and three eighths, while Paramount declined a point and one eighth. Columbia was down one point.

Fractions were cut from Warner Brothers, Universal Pictures, Loew's Inc., Republic and RKO.

Halt Shipments

(Continued from page 1)

week on the British situation and chart company policy, has been set off by the British tax action, with Herbert Yates, president of Republic Pictures, declaring that his company "has made no decisions, but is studying the situation."

Eagle-Lion has called a special meeting for this week, according to Arthur Krim, E-L president, and John Jones, head of Screen Guild Prod., disclosed that the SGP decision on what action will be taken rests with a board of directors' meeting, but no date has been set for the conference.

The action was taken in consequence of the British Treasury's imposition last week of its new 300 per cent ad valorem tax on the value of imported films, which the American companies regard as confiscatory.

The British situation was canvassed by the board of directors of the Motion Picture Association, also meeting here on Friday, and while no action by the meeting was announced, Eric Johnston, MPA president, issued a statement following the meeting in which he decried the British action as an unfriendly act against a friendly industry, and one which, he said, "reverses the whole trend of our international agreements with Britain."

Johnston's statement follows:

"The British government has just authorized the imposition of an import tax which confiscates 75 per cent of the earnings in future imports of the American film industry in Britain. This tax in effect strangles American film shipments to England.

"If the British do not want American pictures, that's one thing. If they do, they shouldn't expect to get a dollar's worth of films for a quarter. And that is exactly what the tax will do.

"This tax was imposed at a time when the American industry, conscious of Britain's dollar crisis, had voluntarily suggested measures of a practical nature to help at once the drain on British exchange. Our members desired to meet the British halfway by offering to block, during the crisis, a substantial share of the earnings of the American film companies in Britain.

"This proposal was submitted to responsible British cabinet ministers, prior to the announcement of the government's action. It would have benefited all and injured none.

"American films are an important part of the total British economy. Five dollars out of every six earned by American films remain in Britain in the form of British taxes, British profits and British wages.

"No American industry has cooperated more wholeheartedly and understandingly with the British in time of trouble than our motion picture industry. We demonstrated this in numerous ways from the very day war was declared in 1939 up to the present moment. For three and a half years after the war began we supplied an undiminished, uninterrupted entertainment to British civilians and the British Services and cheerfully agreed to the blocking of millions of dollars.

UK Foregoes Co-operation

"Instead of following the successful wartime experience of mutual cooperation, the British government has adopted a form of confiscatory tax on earnings in the guise of customs duty on new films. This tax reverses the whole trend of our international agreements with Britain. We believe it violates both the spirit and the letter of the Double Taxation Treaty, the British-American Reciprocal Trade Agreement of 1938, and the present British Loan Agreement.

"Moreover, the tax deals a severe blow to those who have held such high hopes of an early settlement of the world's economic problems through international agreements and cooperation. The British may have set in motion a chain reaction which could blast the hope of all trade revival around the world. Only a greater exchange of more and more goods and services will get Britain out of its crisis. It is not by confiscatory measures, directed against a great and friendly industry that Britain will be helped along the road to recovery."

Silent on Further Attempts

Johnston refused to answer reporters' questions following the meeting as to whether or not any effort would be made by the industry to negotiate with British government officials for a reduction of the duty and also refused to say whether he would ask that the British film tax be made a subject of the coming Washington discussions on liberalization of the Loan Agreement with Britain.

Those in attendance at Friday's meeting with Johnston included: Francis Harmon, Gerald Mayer and Joyce O'Hara, MPA; Nicholas M. Schenck, Charles C. Moskowitz and J. Robert Rubin, Loew's; Jack Cohn and Nate Spingold, Columbia; Barney Balaban and Austin Keough, Paramount; Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists; Nate J. Blumberg, Charles Prutzman and John J. O'Connor, Universal; Ned E. Depinet and Phil Reisman, RKO; Spyros Skouras and Joseph M. Schenck, 20th Century-Fox, and Jack and Albert Warner.

Chadwick Calls UK Tax 'Undeserved Treatment"

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 10.—Commenting on the British tax I. E. Chadwick, president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, said here that "in view of the reception given British films in America, the industry did not deserve this treatment."

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Study Revisions

(Continued from page 1)

ure of the new tax to work. Many believe that time will demonstrate that the tax cannot work out except to the disadvantage of the British trade and government and to the dissatisfaction of the British public. That time may come, many believe, long before the American industry actually feels the loss of its British revenue.

There is very little talk of retaliation against British films among responsible industry executives, and none is to be heard in the top executive levels. The attitude appears to be that the action of Britain's Labor government was unwise and uncalled for and that time will demonstrate that to be the case.

Meanwhile, production planning and expenditures here are likely to be revised to match the new situation.

New York bankers expressed grave concern over the developments in London and indicated that they will be wary of new production financing until the entire situation has been clarified. This view indicates that many independent producers may have difficulty in concluding new financing and, indications are, the $5,000,000 production financing program recently announced by United Artists may be delayed temporarily until banks have decided how far they can go with first money and have found answers to many other questions they are asking now.

Say US Films Vital

(Continued from page 1)

law firm Sullivan and Cromwell.

Annual box-office receipts of American pictures in Great Britain are estimated at $400,000,000, of which only 17 per cent, or $68,000,000, is remitted to the U. S., it is said.

In conclusion of its study, completed before the 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty was imposed, the law firm contends: "The proposed levy . . . would be a step backwards, rather than forwards, in the efforts of common solution of basic Anglo-American economic problems."

Johnston's repeated assertions that the British levy violates the provisions of the British-American Tax Convention of 1945 and the British-American Reciprocal Trade Treaty of 1939, and is contrary to the "spirit and intent" of the American loan to Britain, were based on the analysis.

Balaban Indicates Consequences Here

Loss of new films revenue from Great Britain will mean adjustments in financial operations here, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, indicated here. Asked if the British developments would result in a curtailment of production or reduction of budgets, Balaban answered "we must cut our cloth to suit the new world market." He added it is too early to determine what measures are to be taken, it being "a most important" matter.

No Films of Majors Got Caught EnRoute

None of the Motion Picture Association member companies had film prints or negatives in transit to England when the British Treasury last Thursday issued its order imposing the 75 per cent-of-earnings duty on "foreign" films, it is understood.

Product of some of the companies, however, got in "just under the wire." For example, the last of Universal-International's six duty-free pictures now awaiting release in Britain arrived there Aug. 4. That is understood to have been the "closest call."

UK Tax Relief

(Continued from page 1)

where closer to the 25 per cent urged by the MPA.

One State Department official, making it clear that such a plan would come up in the bi-power talks, added significantly that it is "the only alternative that has come to mind so far."

This official also revealed that the Department's motion picture-consultant, George Canty, would probably be on call during the talks, if not actually participating. Canty is on leave until the end of the month, he said, but will return earlier if the talks start before then.

Another Government official wondered if the British might not be forced to modify the tax even before the talks began. He pointed out that with American film firms cutting off exports to the United Kingdom the British theatre owners can be expected to "raise an almighty howl." This, taken with pressure from J. Arthur Rank and other British film makers, might cause the Attlee government to back-track, he said.

The Dalton government, this official recalled, is empowered to adjust the tax whenever economic conditions make it possible. He suggested that this might be a convenient loophole if the Labor cabinet wanted to make a quick about-face.

SAG Rejects

(Continued from page 1)

by the time the law is operative.

It is understood that the IMPPA proposal asked a 60-hour week, ten-hour day, instead of SAG's standard 48-hour week, eight-hour day. Declining to accept this, the SAG membership counter-offered to reduce wage minimums. Weekend discussions among IMPPA members will be followed by resumption of meetings with the SAG committee tomorrow.

The SAG membership vocally indicated approval of one-year contracts negotiated with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, although approval will not be official until ballots, mailed to the membership a week ago, are tallied.

'Mitty' Opens Thursday

"The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," Samuel Goldwyn production in Technicolor, opens at the Astor here on Thursday.

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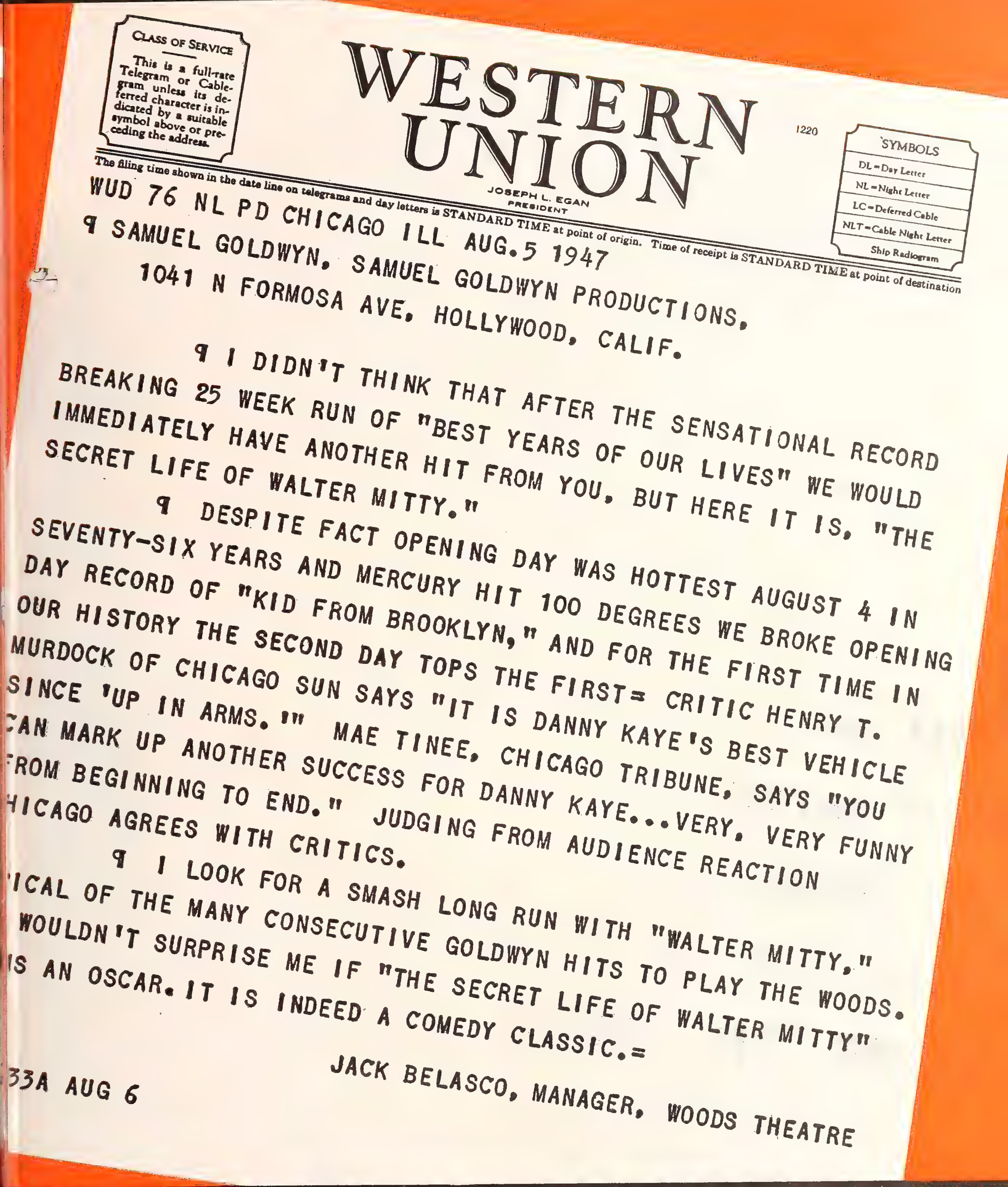

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1041 N FORMOSA AVE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

¶ I DIDN'T THINK THAT AFTER THE SENSATIONAL RECORD BREAKING 25 WEEK RUN OF "BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES" WE WOULD IMMEDIATELY HAVE ANOTHER HIT FROM YOU, BUT HERE IT IS, "THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY."

¶ DESPITE FACT OPENING DAY WAS HOTTEST AUGUST 4 IN SEVENTY-SIX YEARS AND MERCURY HIT 100 DEGREES WE BROKE OPENING DAY RECORD OF "KID FROM BROOKLYN," AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN OUR HISTORY THE SECOND DAY TOPS THE FIRST= CRITIC HENRY T. MURDOCK OF CHICAGO SUN SAYS "IT IS DANNY KAYE'S BEST VEHICLE SINCE 'UP IN ARMS.'" MAE TINEE, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, SAYS "YOU CAN MARK UP ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR DANNY KAYE...VERY, VERY FUNNY FROM BEGINNING TO END." JUDGING FROM AUDIENCE REACTION HICAGO AGREES WITH CRITICS.

¶ I LOOK FOR A SMASH LONG RUN WITH "WALTER MITTY," ICAL OF THE MANY CONSECUTIVE GOLDWYN HITS TO PLAY THE WOODS. WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF "THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY" IS AN OSCAR. IT IS INDEED A COMEDY CLASSIC.=

JACK BELASCO, MANAGER, WOODS THEATRE

33A AUG 6

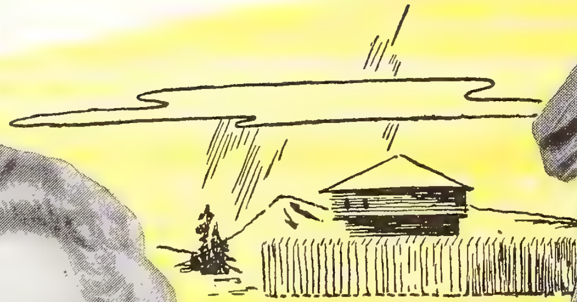
Entertainment in the Goldwyn manner

New! Exciting! A greater Nelso

NORT

NELSON EDDY • ILONA MASSEY
in
"NORTHWEST OUTPOST"
with
JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
ELSA LANCHESTER • HUGO HAAS • LENORE ULRIC
And Introducing
THE AMERICAN G. I. CHORUS
Original Musical Score by RUDOLF FRIML
Lyrics by EDWARD HEYMAN
Musical Director ROBERT ARMBRUSTER
Screen Play by ELIZABETH MEEHAN & RICHARD SALE
Original Story by ANGELA STUART
Adaptation by LAIRD DOYLE
Directed by **ALLAN DWAN**

A REPUBLIC PICTURE



KEEP YOUR BOX OFFICE EYE

Eddy in his greatest role!

WEST OUTPOST

now watch it go!

OPENING IN

New York	GLOBE
New Orleans	SAENGER
Portland, Ore.	BROADWAY
Chicago	ORIENTAL
Charlotte	IMPERIAL

KY-ROCKETING REPUBLIC!

Tax-Free Admissions End in December

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—President Truman has approved legislation ending the wartime tax-free admissions for service men as of Dec. 31, 1947.

The President, on Friday, also signed a bill designed to eliminate certain inequities in taxes imposed on the issuance and transfer of stocks and bonds. Under the new law:

If a company recapitalizes and issues new stock, the issue tax will apply only to the increase in capitalization and not entire recapitalization.

If one member of a partnership dies or retires, the stock transfer tax will be levied only on the portion of the stocks and bonds of the partnership owned by the retiring or deceased partner, and the transfer tax will not be levied on loans of stocks.

District Theatres Net Is $265,221

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—District Theatres Corp., which operates a circuit of 38 theatres in Washington and seven Virginia cities, reported a consolidated net income of $265,221 for the first six months, equal to 82 cents a common share, compared with $224,167 or 69 cents a common share in the like 1946 period. President Harry Freedman reported gross operating revenues for the first half of 1947 were $2,028,771, compared with 1,734,267 in the first half of 1946.

Reopen Phillips Supply

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 10.—Lou Phillips has reopened the theatre supply company formerly known as Modern Theatre Supply and now the Lou Phillips Theatre Supply.

Review

"Adventure Island"

(*Paramount*)

IN their first production in Cinecolor, the William Pine and William Thomas team have charted a course of adventure that begins on the high seas and continues on an unknown jungle island. The picture is compounded of dependable formula ingredients. Its occasional reliance on plot improbabilities will not bother those who like action and excitement in their outdoor dramas. As for the title, "Adventure Island," it seems a good one for exploitation-minded showmen.

The screenplay, based on "Ebb-Tide" by Robert Louis Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne, opens on a South Sea island where three beachcombers are given a choice of remaining in jail, or leaving the lazy shore on a harbor-bound ship whose captain had died of small-pox. The men, Rory Calhoun, Paul Kelly and John Abbott, accept the latter alternative. Once aboard, complications arise when the former skipper's daughter, Rhonda Fleming, turns up and doesn't get along too peacefully with Kelly. As the story proceeds, the boat lands on an uncharted island where a little colony of natives are ruled by a white man with delusions of divinity. The visitors run afoul of the madman and before the final curtain comes down, Kelly and Abbott have been killed, victims of their lust for pearls.

The finale of Maxwell Shane's screenplay sees Calhoun and Miss Fleming happily departing from the island, bearing a gift of pearls. Peter Stewart handled the direction.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 10.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Plan Ft. Lee Hearing On Film Production

FT. LEE, Aug. 10.—A public hearing will be held on Aug. 20 on a borough ordinance that would rezone a part of Lewis St. here to permit a Long Island film company to make motion pictures. Lewis Street was the center of the motion picture industry in Ft. Lee 25 years ago.

The Long Island firm bought the old Aurora Film Co. studio from Ben Ruhyl, manufacturer of theatrical scenery.

Five More Pictures Rated by the Legion

Two of five features recently reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been classified A-I. They are: M-G-M's "Song of Love" and Republic's "Springtime in the Sierras."

The other three, Paramount's "Desert Fury," Columbia's "Key Witness," and M-G-M's "Song of the Thin Man," were placed in Class A-II.

Look who's wildly in Love with Ladd in Paramount's "Wild Harvest"

Blumenstock

(*Continued from page 1*)

ating costs, declared Mort Blumenstock, Warner Brothers' vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity, at Friday's closing session of the two-day WB meeting here of field public relations and ad men representing both the distribution and theatre departments.

To achieve this end, Blumenstock said, campaigns will have to be planned earlier, and the various media used in selling a picture [illegible] the public must be coordinated to [illegible]k so that their combined impact will make itself felt while a picture is being shown.

In support of his contention that higher grosses on pictures are possible if the proper showmanship and playdate timing is put behind them, Blumenstock cited results obtained on certain pictures by circuits that make a regular practice of giving every release a well-organized campaign. In these houses, which include the Warner circuit, Blumenstock said pictures usually do 25 to 50 per cent more business than in comparable independent situations where exhibitors do little more than hang up a few one-sheets.

Specific campaigns outlined by Blumenstock and discussed at the meeting included "Life With Father," "Deep Valley," "Night Unto Night," "Dark Passage" and "The Unsuspected."

In addition to the joint session of the distribution and theatre groups, a meeting of the theatre zone ad men was conducted by Harry Goldberg, director of advertising and publicity for the Warner Circuit.

Home office publicity executives who participated in the meetings included Larry Golob, Eastern publicity director; Charles S. Steinberg, assistant to Golob; Bill Brumberg, manager of the field force; Abe Kronenberg, head of the special events department; G. E. Blackford, in charge of newspaper publicity, and others.

Ad Code

(*Continued from page 1*)

Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; R. J. O'Donnell, head of the Interstate Circuit of Texas, and Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of America.

Wehrenberg, in a telegram, declared that he believed the revised code "is a step forward and will receive the endorsement of the Legion of Decency, Better Films Council, Board of Religious Organizations, etc." O'Donnell and Brandt voiced their support, Brandt commending the MPA board of directors, and O'Donnell saying, "you can count upon us in Texas."

Golden State Sale

(*Continued from page 1*)

which would have to be down-payment.

Golden State is owned by Robert McNeil, comprises 50 theatres here and throughout Northern California, and includes also the T. and D., Jr., Enterprises Circuit of 50 houses in California and Nevada.

Fox West Coast Theatres has an interest of approximately 40 per cent in the various holding companies of Golden State and T. and D., but has no voice in the operation or management of the circuits.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62 . NO. 30 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1947 TEN CENTS

Release of US Films in UK Ordered Cut

Will Spread Six Months Supply to Year or More

In addition to the stoppage of all film shipments to Great Britain for an indefinite period, which was voted by major companies last week in consequence of the 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty imposed by Britain on imported films, American distributors will immediately reduce their release of films in that country in order to conserve the product which they had on hand in Britain when the tax was announced, it was learned here yesterday.

Instructions already have gone to most branch offices in London directing distribution representatives there to effect reductions of releases amounting in some instances to 300 per cent.

A check-up last week revealed that the eight major distributors have approximately 125 features in England now. Normally, that would be about

(*Continued on page 7*)

SETOA Meet Opens In Miami Today

Miami, Aug. 11.—The annual convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners of America will open tomorrow at the Alcazar Hotel here, and will run through Thursday. A discussion of the Motion Picture Foundation is scheduled for the opening session at 10 A.M.

Another business session will be held on Wednesday morning. Luncheon for the wives of delegates will be held at the Shelbourne Hotel at 12:30 P.M., and Wednesday night delegates will visit at the Clover Club

Chairmen of the convention committee are Mitchell Wolfson and George

(*Continued on page 6*)

File Percentage Suits in Indiana

Fort Wayne, Aug. 11.—Eight major motion picture distributing companies filed separate percentage fraud suits today in the U. S. District Court, with Peter G., George and Charles Mallers, as well as eight separate corporations named as defendants in one or another of the complaints. The

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sees US Exhibitors 'Backing Up' Rank

The belief that American exhibitors will "back up" J. Arthur Rank, whom the U. S. industry "needs," by continuing to give his product all the playing time possible, was expressed here yesterday by William Heineman, vice-president and distribution chief of the Universal-Rank organization. Rank, he pointed out, is the U. S. industry's "major champion" in England in the present duty-imposition crisis.

The British Government's tax action, Heineman said, "is not one that calls for retaliation." The company has received no contract cancellations as a result of the British action, nor does it expect any, he added.

The statement made by Fred Wehr-

(*Continued on page 7*)

17 Named NY Area MPF Committeemen

A permanent New York area Motion Picture Foundation committee of 17 was elected at the local MPF organizational meeting held at the Hotel Astor, here, yesterday. Leonard Goldenson, national organization committee chairman, was principal speaker at the meeting which was presided over by Max A. Cohen, temporary chairman of the local MPF. Cohen will retain the temporary chairmanship until a permanent chairman is elected sometime soon.

Elected committeemen, from within whose ranks a national trustee and a

(*Continued on page 6*)

SEE BRITISH TAX CHANGE AS LIKELY

Washington and London Believe a Better Plan Is Sure to Be Found

Mounting opposition to Britain's confiscatory tax on imported films brought increasing indications in London and Washington yesterday that Britain's Labor government eventually may find it expedient to drastically revise or modify its requirement that three-fourths of the revenue earned in Britain by imported films must be paid into the British treasury.

In Washington it was increasingly felt that imposition of the British tax on American films constitutes a violation of the British Loan Agreement and, as such, is more than likely to make it a subject of the conferences concerning liberalizing of the terms of the Loan Agreement which were requested by the British and which are scheduled to be held in Washington this week.

In London, the subject was revived in Parliament yesterday with sugges-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Shares Gain After Recent Dip

Industry shares on the New York Stock Exchange regained a point to fractions at closing yesterday following their recent dip. The improvement was believed due to reports circulating in Washington and London that Britain may alter its plan to limit remittances on films to 25 per cent.

SIMPP Members to Meet Today on Tax

Hollywood, Aug. 11.—With studio heads and independent producers under a blanket agreement to withhold formal comment on the British tax as "undiplomatic," first formal reaction to developments came late today when the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers summoned its membership to a special meeting on the subject for tomorrow afternoon.

Contacted in Chicago en route, United Artists vice-president George Bagnall said he will arrive in time to report fully on New York sessions in the matter. James Mulvey and Mil-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Allied Opposed to British Film Boycott, Rental Boost

Washington, Aug. 11.—Allied States Association today warned producer-distributors not to increase film rentals in an attempt to make up the losses caused by the present British tax situation and opposed talk of a boycott of British films.

"Any attempt by the producer-distributors to maintain their present high profits by saddling their foreign losses upon American exhibitors will provoke the utmost resistance," Allied general counsel Abram F. Myers said. "Exhibitors will reject all arguments advanced by film salesmen for higher prices based on the situation in England."

Myers made a veiled threat by reminding the members of the Motion Picture Export Association that the Export Trade Act grants immunity from anti-trust prosecution only to export agreements by firms that are not in restraint of trade in the U. S.

Allied opposed any boycott of British films by American theatre owners, predicting that the British will soon back-track on their present position. "The British have many faults," Myers stated, "but they have always been willing to shift tactics when they find they have made damned fools of themselves.

"The British government is not going to sacrifice the amusements tax and deny motion picture entertainment to its people during their dark days in a vain attempt to vindicate an action which by now they know was wrong."

The Allied counsel also pointed out that Britain's loan is almost exhausted

(*Continued on page 7*)

Commons Questions Tax's Legal Status

London, Aug. 11.—The question of whether Britain's 300 per cent ad valorem tax on imported films can be placed in effect without confirmation by Parliament was raised in the House of Commons today by Earl Winterton, M.P.

It was contended that if the tax is a violation of the Loan Agreement

(*Continued on page 7*)

Dulles to Lodge MPA Tax Protest Today

Washington, Aug. 11.—The industry's formal protest against the British tax is scheduled to be lodged with the Government tomorrow.

Allen W. Dulles, the Motion Picture Association's adviser on foreign

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Louisiana" is reviewed on page 6.

Key city grosses are reported on page 3.

Para. Buys 67,500 Additional Shares

Paramount last month purchased 67,500 additional shares of its common securities in the open market, to bring its holdings to 447,100 since its stock-buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban last November.

Previous monthly purchase totals were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January, 38,408; February, 23,792; March, 72,500; April 72,300; May, 70,300, and June, 44,300. Closing price for Paramount common yesterday was 23⅝.

Report Run of 'Duel' At 'Popular Prices'

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 11.—"Duel in the Sun," released by the Selznick Releasing Organization, was advertised in the New Haven (Conn.) *Register* as playing at "popular prices" of 75 cents for adults and 40 cents for children for a run at the Lincoln Theatre, New Haven, a neighborhood house, according to the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana's bulletin, *Theatre Facts*. The advertisement appeared on July 23, according to the ATOI.

Milton Kusell, sales executive of Selznick Releasing Organization, indicated in New York yesterday that the run of "Duel in the Sun" at the Lincoln Theatre, New Haven, at "popular prices" was apparently in violation of a "verbal agreement." He said that SRO would investigate the situation.

Settle 20th-Fox Suit Against Anderson

CHICAGO, Aug. 11. — The suit filed by 20th Century-Fox in May, 1946, against the Anderson Theatre circuit, Morris, Ill., has been settled here. The amount of settlement, however, was not disclosed.

In the original filing, charges were brought against Anderson for alleged unreported percentage receipts in eight Illinois theatres by 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Warner Brothers, Paramount, RKO, United Artists and Universal. Prior to this announcement, UA, Universal, Loew's and Warner Brothers had agreed to settlement. As negotiations are continuing, it is believed that the two final distributors pressing charges, Paramount and RKO, will reach an agreement soon,

Ad Chiefs Meet to Discuss Tax Crisis

The advertising-publicity directors of the Motion Picture Association member companies held a meeting of the MPA Eastern Public Information Committee at the MPA offices, here, yesterday, to discuss the British tax situation. The group found "there was nothing we could do about it," and hence no action was taken, a committee spokesman said.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

•

GEORGE WELTNER, president of Paramount International, who was due to return to the home office from vacation on Aug. 19, cut his plans short because of the British tax situation and returned yesterday.

•

CECIL B. DEMILLE has entered a Coast hospital for a checkup preparatory to embarking on a three-month tour of the U. S. and Great Britain on Aug. 22.

•

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., general sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, left here yesterday for Atlanta for talks with HARRY BALLANCE, Southern division sales manager.

•

SAM SHAIN, exhibitor and public relations director for 20th Century-Fox, left here yesterday for Miami to attend the Southeastern Theatre Owners Association meeting.

•

PAUL HOLLISTER, Eastern studio representative and publicity director of RKO Radio, and MRS. HOLLISTER are on the Coast from New York.

•

WILLIAM H. CLARK, treasurer of RKO and RKO Radio, arrived in Hollywood yesterday from New York for a vacation.

•

LINDA DARNELL will fly to the Coast today from New York after arriving here yesterday from Geneva.

•

ORTON H. HICKS, Loew's International director of 16mm. operations, will leave here today for a week's vacation at Martha's Vineyard, Mass.

•

DON MOORE, Eastern story editor for Warner, has left New York for a New England vacation.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, left here last night for Boston.

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK, 20th Century-Fox executive producer, is scheduled to leave New York for the Coast tomorrow.

•

ALLEN SHAW, formerly with Imperial Pictures, has been appointed head booker for Producers Releasing Corp. in Cleveland, succeeding DAVE GAFFNEY, resigned.

•

PAUL WILSON, 20th Century-Fox Southeastern district manager, Atlanta, is in Charlotte for conferences with HI HOLSTON, branch manager there.

•

CHARLES D. PRUTZMAN, Universal vice-president and general counsel was confined to his home with a cold yesterday.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, Paramount advertising-publicity director, is in Virginia on a two-week holiday from New York.

•

ED STEVENS, president of Stevens 16mm. Southern exchanges, has returned to Atlanta from Chicago and New York.

•

RODNEY SMITH, executive secretary of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Association, New York, is on a Maine vacation.

•

CHARLES SIMONELLI, Universal-International special events director, left here yesterday for Cincinnati and Chicago.

•

IVOR NOVELLO. British actor-author-composer-producer, has joined J. Arthur Rank's Two Cities unit.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warner, will return here today from Minerva, O.

•

CECIL BARKER, assistant to DAVID O. SELZNICK, and MRS. BARKFR are parents of a daughter.

Plan 25 Drive-Ins at Cost of $1,500,000

OKLAHOMA CITY, Aug. 11.—Twenty-five drive-in theatres, at a cost of $1,500,000, will be constructed by Griffith Theatres, Inc., Oklahoma City, and Theatre Enterprises, Dallas, the two firms have announced. Of the 25, 16 will be located in Oklahoma, and the others in New Mexico, Kansas and Missouri.

Construction will begin immediately and be completed in time for the beginning of the 1948 season, according to Henry S. Griffing, executive vice-president of Griffith.

St. Louis MPTO to Meet

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 11.—The MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois will meet here Aug. 18, at which time it is expected to express its views on the proposed merger of MPTOA, with which it is affiliated, and ATA.

Disney Buys 'Alice' From Paramount

Walt Disney has concluded a deal with Paramount whereby he acquires Paramount's rights in Lewis Carroll's "Alice in Wonderland," "Through the Looking Glass" and "Hunting of the Shark." At the same time Disney also purchased from Paramount rights in a musical play, entitled "Alice in Wonderland," the libretto for which was written by Henry Savile Clarke and the music by Walter Slaughter.

With his investment in "Alice" further bulwarked by the acquisition from MacMillan of a long term extension of motion picture and other rights in the Sir John Tenniel illustrations to the Carroll works, Disney has now given the green light to the production. "Alice" will be the highest budgeted opus in Disney's career.

The Tenniel illustrations, which are the keynote to any authentic reproduction of "Alice," will be the basis for Disney's interpretation.

National Theatres Heads Return Home

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 11.—Carrying the formula worked out for the annual fall drive, running Sept. 1 through December, National Theatres division presidents are en route home, following two-day sessions with Charles Skouras at headquarters here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

NORTHWEST OUTPOST
starring
NELSON EDDY
ILONA MASSEY
A Republic Picture
BRANDT'S COOL GLOBE B'way & 46th St.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
HEDY LAMARR
DENNIS O'KEEFE
'DISHONORED LADY'
IN PERSON
GEORGE M. COHAN, Jr.
JOHN & RENE ARNAUT
Extra!
JEAN CARROLL

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9.30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES'
THE MOST HONORED FILM OF OUR TIME!
38TH WEEK!
COOL ASTOR B'WAY & 45th ST.

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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Labor Probe Gives Hope, Kahane Says

Los Angeles, Aug. 11.—The House Labor Subcommittee investigations of the industry labor situation here have served to offer the producers "one further hope" for settlement of the current jurisdictional strike, B. B. Kahane, Columbia vice-president, told the Congressional group during his testimony today on behalf of the producers.

"All that the producers want is labor peace and the freedom to operate," Kahane declared, adding that the producers "will support fully any effort to bring about an end to this costly, senseless, jurisdictional fighting among unions over who should do what work in the studios."

Kahane said that "if this committee, by invoking public opinion, by using its good offices, by seeking legislation, or by any other means, can succeed in resolving these continuous jurisdictional problems so that our studios can operate normally and our employees can remain at work, it will have made one of the greatest contributions for good in the history of American labor relations."

E. J. Mannix, M-G-M studio executive, giving testimony similar to that offered by Kahane, placed responsibility for jurisdictional troubles with the presidents of the international unions involved, and he named William Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters union as being principally responsible for failure to settle the present strike.

Subcommittee chairman Kearns said he will subpoena Hutcheson to testify here on Aug. 25, while Congressman Fred Hartley, who is en route to Washington, wired the group that he will subpoena all Hollywood studio heads to testify in Washington Aug. 22.

Reveal SPG Action on 20th Lay-offs Today

Action to be taken by the Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, UOPWA, in response to the recent lay-off by 20th Century-Fox of several home office publicists will be announced here today by SPG officials at a trade press conference. Following a membership meeting last night, the union declared that it would "state to the industry through the trade press its position on the firings, and the action it intends to take to combat this obvious industry economy wave." The officers will also discuss the forthcoming reopening of wage discussions at today's conference.

'Barnstorming' First On Golden's '48 Slate

Hollywood, Aug. 11.—With his next Golden Production for United Artists release, "Texas, Heaven and Brooklyn," now set to go before the cameras, producer Robert S. Golden has announced that the first production on his 1948 schedule will be "Barnstorming," based on the Saturday Evening Post story of the late Frank Bacon, which rolls shortly after the first of the year.

Lloyd Bacon, son of the famous actor, who is under contract to 20th Century-Fox for one picture annually, has been signed by Golden to direct "Barnstorming."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Hot weather, with temperatures in the upper 90's, is hampering attendance. "Duel in the Sun" is going strong in its second week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 12-15:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

CRY WOLF (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following initial week at the Albee, and a moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—KEITH'S (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-75c: $7,500)

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

LONE HAND TEXAN (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **VACATION DAYS (Mono.).** Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,400)

MAGNIFICENT OBSESSION (U-I reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days. Dualed with **I STOLE A MILLION (U-I reissue).** Gross: $2,200. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $2,000. (Average, 7 days: $5,000)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

SAN DEMETRIO, LONDON (British-20th-Fox)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **RANGE BEYOND THE BLUE (PRC).** Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

ATLANTA

Despite the hot weather, business is holding up well. "Welcome Stranger" went into its fourth week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 12:

THE DEVIL ON WHEELS (PRC) and WEB OF DANGER (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-37c). Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,500)

THE HOMESTRETCH (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c). Gross: $6,300. (Average: $5,700)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c) 4th week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,900)

TORONTO

The city was visited by the worst heat wave of the summer. "The Hucksters" remained for a third week at Loew's. "Miracle on 34th Street" was registering well. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 15:

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $11,400)

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $5,000)

THE GUILT OF JANET AMES (Col.) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,800)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $7,800)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $9,500)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,800)

ODD MAN OUT (British)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,300)

BALTIMORE

The extremely hot weather hurt openings. It cooled off at the weekend, however, and grosses showed an improvement. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 14:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $12,000)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 4th week. Gross: $7,250. (Average: $5,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $12,000)

KIPLING'S JUNGLE BOOK (Film Classics)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)

MOONLIGHT SONATA (Equity)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,500)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)

THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500)

Mills Added to Mono. Minneapolis Branch

Minneapolis, Aug. 11.—George Mills, former assistant to M. A. Levy, 20th Century-Fox Prairie district manager, has joined the sales staff here of Monogram-Allied Artists branch.

Mills will cover Minnesota, with two additional salesmen soon to be added, according to Morrie Steinman, Monogram-AA branch manager here.

SRO Names Keating

Cincinnati, Aug. 11. — Jack R. Keating, former local Paramount salesman, has been appointed representative for Selznick Releasing Organization here, succeeding Ed Salzberg, who recently resigned to become branch manager for the Screen Guild Productions of Cincinnati branch.

Stations Can't Shift Responsibility: FCC

Washington, Aug. 11.—The Federal Communications Commission warned radio stations today to guard against contracts delegating to advertising agencies the responsibility for what the station puts on the air.

Although the Commission gave no exact reason for its warning, it stated that such action is contrary to FCC rules. Under the communications act no station licensed by the Commission can transfer its control without FCC consent.

The Commission's statement mentioned cases where a contract between a radio station and an advertising agency gives the agency the right to arrange programs, select talent, and, in one case, take over the commercial management of the station.

O. Anderson Heads Visual Dealer Group

Chicago, Aug. 11.—Olson Anderson of Bay City, Mich., has been elected president of the National Association of Visual Education Dealers, whose 1947 convention and trade show at the Hotel Sherman attracted more than 1,200 persons last week. The newly organized Film Council of America held its first meeting in conjunction with the NAVED convention.

Merriman H. Holtz of Portland, Ore., was named first vice-president, Hazel Calhous of Atlanta, Ga., second vice-president, and Mrs. Roa Kraft Birch of Milwaukee, Wis., secretary-treasurer. Directors-at-large include M. L. Stoeppelwerth of Indianapolis and E. H. Stevens of Atlanta.

The following zone directors were elected: Ernie Ryan, Zone V. Plain States; E. E. Carter, Zone III, Eastern States; Howard K. Smith, Zone VII, Western States, and D. K. Hammet, Zone I, New England States. Zone directors who continue in office include Arthur Zeiller and Frank Bangs.

D.C. Unit Accepts Bldg. Code Changes

Washington, Aug. 11.—Washington theatremen achieved a victory today when the District Egress committee agreed to recommend to the commissioners all changes for new theatres asked by theatre people in the proposed building and fire code.

"We feel certain," said A. Julian Brylawski, chairman of the citizen's committee on buildings and theatres, "that the commissioners will pass the recommendation."

Changes in the code for existing buildings will be discussed at a future date, Brylawski said, but since the committee liberalized all points asked by theatremen in the code for new buildings "it seems logical to expect that they will do as much with the code for existing buildings."

F-C Seeks Franchise In Minneapolis

Minneapolis, Aug. 11.—Conferences are expected to begin shortly for the acquisition of Joe Wolf's Film Classics distribution franchise here by the parent company.

Film Classics, Inc., during the past two years has purchased approximately 90 per cent of its domestic outlets.

'Stallion' Premiere Today

Eagle Lion's "Red Stallion," which will be simultaneously world-premiered today in Los Angeles at the Carthay Circle and in Houston at the Majestic Theatre, has been chosen as first attraction to be shown at Fox West Coast's new 1500-seat Culver Theatre in Culver City. The picture will open at the Culver tomorrow in a simultaneous five first-run theatre booking at the Culver, Orpheum, El Rey, Vogue and Belmont Theatres.

With the opening, the film starts rolling on the first of 250 first-run day-and-date openings.

Saucier Returns

Ted Saucier, public relations director of the Waldorf-Astoria, has returned here after conferring on the Coast with M-G-M producer Joseph Pasternak on the production of a picture in which the Waldorf-Astoria will be used as the locale of the story.

Let "The Jo
Be A Lesson
Set Your Play

in TECHNICOLOR!

son Story"

To You!

ing Time Now!

Rita *Larry*

HAYWORTH · PARKS

in

Down to Earth

with

MARC PLATT · ROLAND CULVER · JAMES GLEASON · EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
ADELE JERGENS · GEORGE MACREADY · WILLIAM FRAWLEY

Original screenplay by Edwin Blum, Don Hartman · Songs by Allan Roberts and Doris Fisher

Directed by ALEXANDER HALL · A DON HARTMAN PRODUCTION

A COLUMBIA PICTURE

Indiana Suits

(*Continued from page 1*)

complaints allege that the various corporate defendants were owned and controlled by the Mallers Brothers during the period in controversy. Suits were brought by Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio Pictures, United Artists, Universal and Warner Brothers.

The complaints, similar to those filed in various other federal courts throughout the country, allege a plan and conspiracy by the defendants to defraud by submitting false reports of admission receipts derived from the exhibition of percentage pictures. Among the Indiana theatres involved are the New Grand, Bluffton; the Family and Wayne, Fort Wayne; the Ritz, Tipton; the Princess and Hines, Portland; the Centennial, Warsaw; the Riley and State, Greenfield, and the Strand and Valentine theatres, Defiance, Ohio. Each plaintiff seeks punitive damages in addition to the damages sustained by the alleged fraud and conspiracy.

George S. Dailey of the Indianapolis firm of Dailey, Dailey & Lesh signed the complaints as attorney for the plaintiff-distributors. Sargoy & Stein of New York are also of counsel for the plaintiffs.

SETOA

(*Continued from page 1*)

Hoover. Assistant convention chairmen are Mark Chartrand and Tom Jefferson, while regional chairmen are Mac Jackson, president of the SETOA, and James Harrison.

Titus in Miami for Exhibitor Meet

Walter L. Titus, Jr., Republic's Southern division manager, is in Miami attending the Southeastern Exhibitors Convention, in session through Thursday.

Before returning to the home office, Titus will hold a sales meeting in Atlanta Aug. 14-15. Southwestern district managers Norman J. Colquhoun and Southern district sales manager Merritt Davis will head a group which includes branch managers Nat Wyse, Memphis; J. H. Dillon, Charlotte; J. E. Hobbs, Atlanta; and Leo V. Seicshnaydre, New Orleans.

CLUE TO A HIT! 2
GREEN FOR DANGER
"Humdinger of a baffler! Humorous, intriguing and startling!"
—N. Y. TIMES
THE SCREEN'S UNPARALLELED ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

Review

"Louisiana"

(*Monogram*) *Hollywood, Aug.* 11

THIS filming of the factual story of the present Governor of Louisiana, Jimmie Davis, with the Governor portraying himself in the picture, is a distinct first. There is, therefore, no precedent by which to compute its box office value, its worth as entertainment, nor even its importance as a precedent which, conceivably, could prove the fore-runner of future films concerning political figures during their political careers. It is a film for showmen to see, decide about for themselves, and proceed with accordingly.

In form, the picture partakes in part of the nature of a March of Time subject, with offscreen narration providing introduction and later picking up the story for brief periods. But in the main it's a telling in straight cinema fashion of the story of Jimmie Davis, son of a share cropper, who worked his way through school, became a college professor, also a writer and singer of hillbilly songs, and went into politics, first as a city official, ultimately as governor, making his way upward by dint of singing his songs, over the radio and in person, to the voters. Governor Davis is a personable figure, gifted in his type of song, and generous in his singing of numbers. Politically, he is shown as an independent, denying himself the help of old line parties, and winning election against monied opponents by sheer personal popularity plus demonstrated integrity in office. It is a quite interesting story, interestingly told.

In theory, however, it would appear quite as plausible for Governor Davis of Louisiana, having risen to that position by use of hillbilly songs broadcast to the Louisiana populace, to rise by the same type of music, expertly dispensed in this picture, to the Presidency or other national position of power. This is not to suggest that Governor Davis or Monogram Pictures had any such ideas in mind when launching the project to film his life story, but it is a fact that a film precisely like this one would be quite an item of campaign material for a candidate for national office. So much for possibilities.

The cast supporting Governor Davis includes Margaret Lindsay, John Gailaudet, Freddie Stewart, Dottye Brown, Mollie Miller, Ralph Freito, Russell Hicks, John Harmon, The Sunshine Serenaders—an especially talented hillbilly instrumental group—and many others.

Governor Davis wrote all or part of each of the eight song numbers, which include the memorable "You Are My Sunshine."

Lindsley Parsons produced the picture, and Phil Karlson directed it, from a screenplay by Jack DeWitt based on an original story by Steve Healey.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Kaye's First Warner Film Late This Year

Danny Kaye, whose long-reported contract with Warner Brothers, became official over the weekend, will start his first picture for the company late this year or early next.

Kaye was brought to Hollywood by Samuel Goldwyn in 1942 under a five-picture agreement. Under his new contract with WB, he will appear in five pictures during the next seven years on a profit-sharing basis. He will receive minimum guarantee for each picture against a percentage of the profits.

Lippert Takes Over House in Fresno

FRESNO, Aug. 11.—Robert L. Lippert's Lippert Theatres will take over the operation of the State Theatre here on a 25-year lease on Jan. 1, 1948, when Fox West Coast's lease expires.

Extensive remodeling is planned for the house, which will be renamed "The Esquire." Edward Stokes, manager of the Fresno Drive-In, will take over management.

MGM Record Deal

World-wide distribution of M-G-M phonograph records has been effected through an agreement between Loew's, Inc. and Electric and Musical Industries, Ltd., of London. Loew's M-G-M record division will continue manufacturing the company's records in North America, Central America and affiliated territories, while the London unit will distribute them under the M-G-M label throughout the rest of the world.

Special Repertory Season at Palace

A special repertory program, consisting of present and past RKO Radio feature pictures, starts today at the RKO Palace Theatre here.

Pictures selected for the first week of the season, which will feature a daily change of program, are: "The Bells of St. Mary's" today; "Love Affair" tomorrow; "The Informer," on Thursday; "Top Hat" on Friday; "The Pride of the Yankees" on Saturday; "Gunga Din" on Sunday, and "The Spanish Main," on Monday, Aug. 18.

Miner Acquires Two Houses in Menominee

MENOMINEE, Wis., Aug. 11.—Miner Amusement Co., Inc., has acquired the Orpheum and Grand theatres here from Charles M. Redmond, Chicago broker and successful bidder for the property. Possession starts Sept. 1.

Under the agreement, the circuit acquires title to the Orpheum, lease on the Grand, and a site on which a new house was started. Approval to continue the latter construction has been applied for by the circuit.

MPF Committeemen

(*Continued from page 1*)

permanent local chairman will be selected, are: Cohen, Gus Eyssell, Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsberg, Dave Levy, Arthur Mayer, Raymond E. Moon, Walter Reade, Sam Rinzler, Sam Rosen, Edward N. Rugoff, Bert Sanford, Fred Schwartz, Joseph M. Seider, George Skouras, Solomon Strassberg and Joseph Vogel.

Cohen will set a date shortly for an election meeting.

SIMPP Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

ton Kramer, who also represented SIMPP at New York, will also address the meeting, while Donald Nelson, who arrived here today for a convalescence at home, will not be able to preside, but will be in touch.

Neither the Association of Motion Picture Producers nor the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association have scheduled meetings.

Although official executive attitude is that the "situation is a distribution matter and in the hands of company heads," off-the-record opinion is virtually unanimous that production economies in all practicable directions will result automatically if the British policy stands unchanged. It is agreed, however, that institution of these economies will necessarily be gradual and extend over long periods, since nearly all production costs are pegged to contracts which do not allow for reduction. With new and higher labor contracts recently put in effect all along the line, the only feasible curtailment in costs appears to lie in shortening shooting schedules, it is believed.

Color processing companies foresee no likelihood of a decrease in color pictures, pointing out that color experienced its greatest boom when, under war shortages, studios were unable to build lavish sets and, similarly, were forced to star new talent due to the absence of established stars. These observers believe the economy wave would increase, rather than reduce, the number of features made in color.

Reduction in the number of features produced is considered impracticable, regardless of any possible reduction in their costs, due to a nationwide tendency recently to shorten exhibition engagements. This already has had the effect of reducing some product backlogs, and it is feared that reduction in the number of pictures made would lead to an acute product shortage within a year.

Probable effect on bank financing is not yet clear. Producers figure that in the past 16 cents of the foreign revenue dollar came from England. Reduction of this to four cents is regarded as virtually equivalent to wiping out this source.

TWA is the way to fly to
CHICAGO
3 hrs. 20 min. non-stop $36.15 tax extra
[Premium Flights Extra]
Your choice of 13 flights daily to Chicago . . . For immediate reservations see your travel agent or call
LExington 2-7100
Ship TWA Airfreight—rates cut 25%
TWA
TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

Change Likely

(Continued from page 1)

tions that the British Treasury may have exceeded its powers in putting the tax into effect without confirmation by the House of Commons. Should this prove the case, additional American films presumably could be sent into Britain until such time as Commons acts.

Also, in London, J. Arthur Rank, titular head of the British film industry, sounded an optimistic note in his first public statement since the British films tax was announced.

"There is nothing to worry about" Rank said. "The door is still open. It will take several months for the effects to be felt and before then some alternative dollar saving scheme will be found to suit everybody."

Tom O'Brien, Member of Parliament and head of some of Britain's largest film unions, declared in London that "Even an emergency cannot justify the unprecedented methods of Sir Stafford Cripps, head of the Board of Trade, and Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer. They have shown a callous disregard for the very existence of the British industry and have dealt a death blow to the hopes of British films in the world market.

Asks Immediate Reconsideration

"The Chancellor should reconsider the situation immediately," O'Brien concluded.

Additional criticism was heaped upon the British Treasury's action over the weekend by J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal-International, who is now in London; by Herbert Wilcox, Alexander Korda and other British producers for the market.

Cowdin told a press conference he is "deeply disturbed by the British films tax as something not only affecting our pockets but also the very roots of trading between our two countries. It is a question of principle as well as of dollars," he said.

"Taxing money legally earned by Americans here cannot enhance good will and may cause disunity," Cowdin continued. "There is a strong feeling in America that this action is a complete violation of the Loan Agreement. Moreover, the tax will have repercussions in other countries. The proposal imperils American and British world industry.

Hits 'Severe Discrimination'

"If Americans were to continue to send films to Britain under the present tax rate," Cowdin said, "something like $52,000,000 would remain with British customs before there was any return from the boxoffice. What other industries have been discriminated against in this way?

"I am still confident," he said, "that with proper reconsideration of the mutual problems involved it is possible to arrive at a conclusion which, at the same time, will permit American film companies their continued existence here and avoids the complications of the new drastic order."

Cowdin said that Universal has 12 features in England unaffected by the tax, which would permit the company to continue to remit dollars on their earnings until January.

Wilcox predicted that the tax, if permitted to stand, will mean the end of British films in America.

Korda said that while it is obvious that America will not take kindly to British films now, he proposes to go ahead with his production plans here regardless.

The Cinematograph Exhibitors Association will hold a special meeting on the subject tomorrow and the British Film Producers Association is scheduled to meet Wednesday.

MAGNIFICENT THEATRE SITE
One Square Block
2nd Ave. and Mt. Prospect Ave. in the finest residential apartment section of Newark.
About 30,000 Sq. Ft.
For sale or long term ground lease.
L. N. ROSENBAUM & SON
565 Fifth Ave., New York 17

Allied Opposed

(Continued from page 1)

and that the Attlee government may be planning to ask for another loan. "Even a British Laborite knows that you can't borrow money from a man whose property you are confiscating," he said.

Myers declared that he saw "no need for further retaliatory action," adding that "chances of a friendly settlement of the controversy certainly should not be jeopardized by an American boycott of British films."

Myers attacked the British tax as showing "no restraint in dealing with other people's property," and termed the MPEA embargo on films to Britain "vigorous and to the point." He admitted that the loss of the $70,000,000 remittances from Britain was a serious problem but that, "based on current profits, it will not throw them into bankruptcy."

Tax Dissipates Exhibitors' Urge to Favor UK Films: Poole

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 11.—The action taken by England in imposing the *ad valorem* duty on revenue earned by American pictures released in England "has, in our opinion, dissipated the urge on the part of exhibitors of the United States to give important playing time to British pictures," according to a statement issued today by R. H. Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

'Backing Up' Rank

(Continued from page 1)

enberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, which was reported at the weekend in press dispatches from St. Louis, was greeted by Heineman as "the type of thinking which will certainly benefit the industry at large." Wehrenberg, according to the report, said that his organization has no plans to call for an exhibitor boycott of British pictures, adding that "if the British put out any films worth showing we'll show them in our theatres." That, said Heineman, is "a very sensible viewpoint to take," adding that "reprisals at this time would only tend to aggravate the situation."

The Universal-Rank organization, meanwhile, has completed arrangements for three more releases in the U. S.: "Black Narcissus," "Frieda" and the recent James Mason starrer, "The Upturned Glass."

Canada's Cabinet to Weigh Trade Balance

Toronto, Aug. 11.—Adding further to international financial complications as they might affect the American film industry, announcement has been made that the Canadian cabinet will hold a special session shortly to deal with matters affecting the adverse balance of trade with the United States. Date of meeting is indefinite, but it is expected within a week or 10 days.

Cut Releases

(Continued from page 1)

a six months' supply of product. The drastic cuts in release schedules now called for are calculated to stretch the product supply to anywhere from 10 months for some companies to more than a year for others.

More intensive booking of all product throughout England will be the result. Some companies, such as United Artists and Columbia, which have experienced real difficulty in getting their pictures played by the larger British circuits during the past six months or more, have accumulated large backlogs of unplayed product in England as a result. They are now destined to find that product very much in demand.

Tax Turns Table for U.A.

Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists president, returned from a month's visit to England only a few weeks ago after trying fruitlessly to set up a playing arrangement for the company's films, which could not even be obtained on J. Arthur Rank's Odeon Circuit, in which U. A. is heavily interested.

Today, trade observers point out Sears could decide in his New York office what British theatres will be permitted to have U. A. product and on what terms.

That, however, is not the procedure which the company will adopt. Arthur W. Kelly, U. A. executive vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, has not changed his plans, made before the British tax was imposed, to go to London to set up a playing arrangement. He will carry out his plans and may leave here by plane tomorrow for London.

Halt May Dissuade Other Nations

Meanwhile, informed opinion here and in Washington holds that the companies' prompt action in stopping film shipments to England may do more to dissuade other countries which were prepared to follow Britain's lead from taking a similar course against American films than anything that could have been done. The loss in taxation to the British Treasury from the stoppage of new films, the grave blow it represents to the British theatre industry and the public dissatisfaction it is sure to arouse in England, are not likely to be invited by other nations which may have contemplated action similar to Britain's, it is felt.

MPA Protest

(Continued from page 1)

affairs, is slated to talk to State and Treasury Department officials and give them the MPA's brief, holding that the *ad valorem* tax violates the Double Taxation Treaty. The brief was prepared by the law firm of Sullivan and Cromwell, in which Dulles is a partner.

Meanwhile, rumors persisted here that the Attlee government would be forced to backtrack on their action. Officials predicted that if the British have not modified their decision by the time the talks begin on relaxing the loan agreement, the switch will come during the loan talks. At that time, it is expected that there will be some modification of the convertibility requirements, and Britain will probably be allowed once again to freeze some remittances.

State Department officials said they were now considering the British action in the light of the three financial agreements we have with the British, and that the general opinion was that it did not violate the letter of any of the three, but did violate the spirit of all three.

Commons Questions

(Continued from page 1)

with the United States it required an affirmative resolution by Parliament before it could be placed in effect.

(When the British Treasury announced the tax last Wednesday it declared it to be effective immediately.)

Herbert Morrison, House of Commons leader, replying for Sir Stafford Cripps, who is absent on a holiday, replied that the circumstances are "uncertain" but that if the situation is as represented, Commons must confirm the tax

Winterton said he will repeat his question in Commons tomorrow.

$ WATCH IT GROW! $
MR. EXHIBITOR!
• INTERSTATE CIRCUIT
• FOX WEST COAST
• FOX MIDWEST
• WARNER CIRCUIT
• M & P THEATRES
have booked
RED STALLION
THE GREATEST ACTION THRILLER OF OUR TIME in CINECOLOR!
HAVE YOU?
$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $

CLIMB ON THE BANDWAGON...

Get Back to SHOWMANSHIP!

Come on fellas...Climb on the Bandwagon ...with the Industry's "*Top*" SHOWMEN!... Step up your Advertising "*tempo*"...with *Bigger* Newspaper Ads...*more* Radio time!... Make a Big "*Noise*" from your Lobby, Front and SCREEN!...Plaster those highways and byways... with eye-arresting *Lithographs* that "*Harmonize*" with your *sock* campaign ...and build up "*volume*" at your Box Office! ...Get in "*tune*" with the times!...Get Back To Showmanship!

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

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NEW YORK, N. Y.

VOL. 62. NO. 31 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1947 TEN CENTS

Banks Suspend Independent Film Financing

Loan Changes Predicted; Await British Moves

New York banks and financing companies which have been prominently identified with financing of independent production have discontinued such loans pending clarification of the situation resulting from loss of the British market to the American industry, it was revealed yesterday. Changes in loan arrangements are predicted, once they are resumed.

Banking officials, incidentally, said they do not share the optimism over the prospects of the British tax being modified which was prevalent in London, Washington and some trade quarters early this week.

They contend that if the British Treasury had been willing to entertain

(*Continued on page* 4)

Security Co. Backs Films as Good Buy

CHICAGO, Aug. 12.—Despite the fact that England proposes to tax away 75 per cent of the profits made by American films shown in that country, the nation's largest brokerage house believes that the securities of leading motion picture companies offer attractive possibilities, it was revealed here.

Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Beane has sent out a change in its security and industry rating on motion picture issues, raising the firm's appraisal of such securities from "average to unfavorable" to "average."

"The long expected adverse news regarding the British tax on imports of American films," the brokerage house informed its offices throughout the country, "may cause further pressure on motion picture stocks, but we would rather buy on a scale down than sell at this late date."

US Industry Firm In British Stand

A general discussion of joint industry matters with emphasis on the British situation was taken up by top film company officials at a meeting here yesterday with indications that all are remaining firm in their no-new-films-to-England attitudes.

NY Grosses Solid With 'Bachelor,' 'Stranger' Leading

Notwithstanding the competition offered by beaches and other escapes from the heat, New York's first-runs are enjoying far-better-than-average business this week. Out in front as business-bringers are "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" and stage show at Radio City Music Hall, due for an excellent $152,000 third week (which betters the gross made in the first and second weeks), and "Welcome Stranger" and Carmen Cavallaro's orchestra on stage, at the Paramount, where a very high $110,000 is in view for the first week.

Third week of "Crossfire" at the

(*Continued on page* 4)

MPF Has $1,000,000 Already: Goldenson

MIAMI, Aug. 12.—The Motion Picture Foundation has already received contributions totaling $1,000,000, Leonard Goldenson, MPF national organization committee chairman, disclosed here today in an address before the opening session of the three-day annual convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners of America. The Foundation, which accepts only voluntary contributions, has a goal of $100,000,000 for the aid of needy film workers.

Mack Jackson, SETOA president, presided at today's session which was addressed also by former president Nat Williams, City Manager Dick Danner, William Jenkins, E. V. Richards, and Claude Lee.

SIMPP Names Unit On Tax Problems

Hollywood, Aug. 12.—After a day-long session on the British film tax situation, the Society of Independent Motion Pictures Producers appointed a committee, headed by Gunther Lessing, SIMPP vice-president and general counsel, to work with Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, on all problems and decisions which will ensue from the British action. SIMPP, however, did not announce its stand on the 75 per cent levy itself. Members of the committee are: Herbert Silberberg, a SIMPP attorney; Marvin Ezzell, Daniel O'Shea and Benedict Bogeaus.

Court Upholds Award To Goldman Theatres

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 12.—Attempt of Warner Brothers and ten other major film companies to set aside an award of $375,000 damages to William Goldman Theatres, Inc. was rejected yesterday by the Third U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

In the original decision reached Dec. 19, 1946, Judge William H. Kirkpatrick ruled that Goldman was forced to close the Erlanger Theatre in December, 1942 because film companies denied him first run films. Warner and the others asked for a review of the case, claiming that Goldman did not reopen the Erlanger even after pictures were offered him, which, they alleged, proved he never wanted first run films for this theatre.

"Body and Soul"

[***UA-Enterprise***] — **Solar Plexus Entertainment**

Hollywood, Aug. 12

SHOWMEN shopping for sock entertainment, and audiences with the same want in mind, will know they've had it when they've experienced this hard-hitting melodrama about a boxer and his problems, personal and professional, with John Garfield turning in the best performance of his career and capable others matching his lead to a nicety. Their names—Lili Palmer, Anne Revere, Canada Lee, to mention but three—alongside his on a marquee mean strong opening business. Strength of story, production and direction guarantee growth of grosses as word-of-mouth goes into play.

On top, the story concerns a kid on New York's East Side who's a natural fighter and finally enters the profession over his mother's objections when accidental death of his father in a gangster foray reduces her to the need of asking charity. Entering dubious partnership with the promoter who controls professional boxing, he fights his way to the championship, knowing the game to be crooked but, in the bitterness of his resentment against the circumstances of his youth, taking the fat financial proceeds without qualm.

His mother (Anne Revere) and his sweetheart (Lili Palmer) try to

(*Continued on page* 4)

UK Exhibitors Ask New US Negotiations

Say Industry Faces Extinction Otherwise

LONDON, Aug. 12. — A request for an immediate resumption of negotiations on the subject of American motion picture earnings here was made to Prime Minister Attlee today by the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association.

The request was made in a letter setting forth the predicament of the British theatres in consequence of the imposition of the 300 per cent *ad valorem* tax on imported films and the halting of American film shipments to Britain in consequence thereof. Copies of the CEA's letter to the Prime Minister were sent to Sir Stafford Cripps, head of the Board of Trade, and to Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

British theatres are faced with the following eventualities, the CEA letter said, unless an agreement can be reached which will permit the American film companies to resume shipments:

Under present film contracts, Brit-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Dalton Denies Tax Violates U.S. Loan

LONDON, Aug. 12.—Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, denied in Commons today the allegation that the new 300 per cent duty on imported films is in violation of Britain's loan agreement with the United States.

Dalton admitted that an affirmative resolution must be passed by Commons within 28 House sitting days

(*Continued on page* 4)

MPA Tells US Tax Violates 3 Pacts

WASHINGTON, Aug. 12.—The industry today made formal protest to the U. S. government that the British 75 per cent tax violated both the letter and the spirit of all three Anglo-American financial agreements.

Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Export Associa-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

JACK L. WARNER has arrived in London.

•

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, will leave New York today by plane for London to confer with J. Arthur Rank. He will also visit France, Denmark, Sweden, Belgium, Switzerland and other countries on the Continent.

•

Gradwell Sears, United Artists president, and Mrs. Sears have become grandparents with the birth of a son, Gradwell, to Mr. and Mrs. William J. Girardi at the New Rochelle Hospital on Monday.

•

Louis Joseph Bernhard, son of Joseph Bernhard, president of Film Classics, and Mrs. Bernhard, has become engaged to Elsie Leonie Marks of New York and Green Haven, N. Y.

•

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, is due back here tomorrow from Miami.

•

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president, left here yesterday by plane for Miami to address the SETOA convention.

•

Bill Brumberg, Warner field public relations staff manager, left here last night for Chicago.

•

Al Corwin, Motion Picture Export Association publicist here, began a two-week vacation on Monday.

•

Nat Levy, RKO Radio Eastern division manager, returned here yesterday from Detroit.

Form New Group For Distribution

Dallas, Aug. 12.—Organized specifically to deal directly with owners of State right product, United Film Distributors, covering 10 exchange centers, has been established at Memphis, Tenn., by distributors, with John M. Mangham elected as chairman.

Purpose of this group is to distribute identical product from each exchange and to furnish a group buy to owners of product. Exchange operations will be synchronized for film buys and services to the theatres.

First group of pictures under this arrangement is an announced series of six outdoor specials which will feature Russell Hayden and be produced by Paul Willett in San Antonio, Texas. A contract for this series has just been signed by John L. Franconi in Dallas.

Rank Units in Vacation

J. Arthur Rank's production and laboratory units, including all of his British studios, will be closed the last two weeks in August for mass vacations for the personnel. Rank's theatres and executive headquarters staff are not affected.

KMTA Asks Use of Institutional Ads

Kansas City, Aug. 12.—A resolution requesting preparation and presentation of institutional advertising at each show, with the additional suggestion that sentences of this advertising appear on each print of each feature picture among subtitles and credits, was adopted and sent to Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, by the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association board of directors at its meeting here today.

Plans for the Sept. 30-Oct. 1 convention were also discussed at the session, and the board announced that it had received confirmation of the scheduled attendance by Fred Wehrenberg, H. M. Ritchie, Dave Palfreyman, Leon J. Bamberger and Sam Shain. Gov. Karlson of Kansas has also indicated that he will be present, as will representatives from associations of nearby areas.

Slate Trip to Maine On 'Life With Father'

More than 125 national magazine, newspaper, trade paper, syndicate, fan publication and radio broadcasting personalities will board a special train here tonight for the trip to Skowhegan, Me., to attend the world premiere of the Warner Brothers Technicolor film, of "Life With Father," at the Lakewood Theatre tomorrow night.

WB home office executives who will be in Skowhegan for the premiere include Mort Blumenstock, Harry M. Kalmine, Stanleigh P. Friedman, Jules Lapidus, Harry Goldberg, Gil Golden, Larry Golob, Jacob Wilk, Ralph W. Budd, Frank E. Cahill, Jr.

Warner Subsidiary Buys Chicago House

Chicago, Aug. 12.—The 1,100-seat Cosmopolitan Theatre here has been sold by the American National Bank and Trust Co., trustee, to the Federal Theatres Co. of New York for $175,000. The sale included nine stores that are also located in the building, located at 7938 South Halsted street.

Federal Theatres is a subsidiary of Warner Brothers, which has a long term lease on the theatre.

Ende F-C Comptroller

Joseph Ende has left Price, Waterhouse and Co. to join Film Classics, Inc., as comptroller, it was announced yesterday by Sam Wheeler, F-C sales head.

Change Name of MPA Publicity Unit

Advertising and Publicity Directors' Committee of the Motion Picture Association is the new title of the Eastern Public Information Committee. This parallels the change in Hollywood where the PIC now functions as the Studio Publicity Directors Committee and confines its public relations activities to studio matters.

MPF Trustees Will Meet in October

Miami, Aug. 12.—First official statement as to when the Motion Picture Foundation national trustees meeting will be held was made here today by MPF national organization committee chairman Leonard Goldenson who told the annual convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners an early October date is being considered.

Since mid-April, when area organizational activity got underway, some 406 MPF committeemen have been named in 23 cities, while 39 national trustees and area chairmen have been elected to head their respective units.

Hutcheson Is Object Of Casey Criticism

Los Angeles, Aug. 12.—Carpenters union international president William Hutcheson again was the principal target of testimony given at the House Labor Subcommittee hearings, with Pat Casey, chief witness at today's session, asserting that Hutcheson had been easy to deal with for 25 years, but changed his attitude in 1945 when the union chieftain threatened to order carpenters to refuse to work on theatre construction.

Casey quoted Hutcheson as having said, "Some day producers will want to build or remodel theatres or studios, and then they will come down my alley." Hutcheson, who is believed to be in Los Angeles, has not yet been reached by subpoena servers to call him to testify before the House group.

20th - Fox Drive Is Described by Moon

Albany, Aug. 12.—Ray Moon, 20th Century-Fox Eastern division manager, addressed employes of the Albany branch yesterday on the Andy Smith drive, Aug. 31 to Dec. 27.

Moon completed a tour of the New York, New Haven, Boston, and Buffalo exchanges with Joseph Rosen, Albany manager, who is division leader, and Helen Wisper, Rosen's secretary, who is the women's captain in the drive.

20th-Fox Names Solomon

Eddie Solomon has been appointed exploitation manager for the mid-West area, it was announced yesterday by Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director. Solomon was formerly in charge of the Chicago exploitation department and recently had been in the New York office.

Charles Gamble Dies

Portland, Aug. 12.—Charles Gamble, 49, brother of Ted R. Gamble, circuit operator and board chairman of American Theatres Association, died of a heart attack Sunday. He was former director of Hood River Oregon Theatre for Gamble Enterprises.

Newsreel Parade

THE cessation of the Howar Hughes inquiry in Washingto highlights the items in the curren newsreels. Also covered are Willia Odom's round-the-world flight, th crisis in Palestine and numerous othe items of sports and human interest. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 100—Senat committee adjourns inquiry of Howar Hughes. Odom flies around the world i record 73 hours. Crisis in Palestine. California forest fire put out with aid from air Girls compete for pin-up crown. Gold Cu regatta. Horseracing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 298—Final in battle of Washington. Solo world fligh sets new record. Some 4,500 refugees refus to quit British ships. Dixie belles ride ic cakes in Atlanta. Gold cup regatta.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 101—Air veteran wins speedboat classic. Gorilla celebrates 21st birthday. British scuttle wa gas. Howard Hughes inquiry ends. Aroun the world in 73 hours.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 103—USA summer 1947: The Washington scene The Queen Mary returns. Baseball. Horseracing. Golf, Motorboat racing. Odom' round-the-world flight. Two Piper Cub circle globe.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 64—Odom completes record-breaking glob flight. Hughes probe called off. The Palestine crisis. Gold Cup race.

Retroactivity Snags Cameramen's Talks

With the retroactive pay aspect representing the main bone of contention in the short subject cameramen's current negotiations with the companies, both sides are awaiting word from Pat Casey's office here as to when the shorts editors will meet again with Walter A. Lang, business representative of Local 644 of the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industries, IATSE Union's original demand was a blanket $85-per-week increase, retroactive for two years; companies countered with an offer of $35, retroactive for one year. The cameramen now receive $165 per week.

Still holding out for two-year retroactivity, the local is preparing to make a compromise offer of $60 increase, it was said yesterday.

SAG Talks Here

Some 40 Eastern producers of non-theatrical films were scheduled to begin contract negotiations here today with John Dales Jr., executive secretary of the Screen Actors Guild, representing some 1,800 persons. Following the sessions with producers of documentaries and other non-theatrical films, SAG plans to meet, either individually or in a group, with some 15 other producers here, including producers of Negro films and musical shorts. SAG wage demands are identical with those negotiated on the Coast.

Frankel Resigns

Daniel Frankel has resigned as general sales manager of the 16mm. division of 20th Century-Fox International Corp., to return to his former business as an executive of the Four Continent Films here.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco. New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

When the
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to get the
BIGGEST
picture it
could find
to start the
BIGGEST
season of
the year!

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in M-G-M's Great Romance
"SONG OF LOVE"
A CLARENCE BROWN PRODUCTION
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LEO G. CARROLL · HENRY DANIELL · HENRY STEPHENSON
Screen Play by Ivan Tors, Irmgard Von Cube and Allen Vincent and Robert Ardrey
Produced and Directed by CLARENCE BROWN
A METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER PICTURE

MPA Tells US

(*Continued from page* 1)

tion, and Allen W. Dulles, MPEA foreign adviser, acting on behalf of Eric Johnston, presented Under-Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett with the Association's brief, which contends that the *ad valorem* tax violates the double taxation treaty, the trade agreement of 1938, and the recent loan agreement. In an hour-long conference, an announcement from MPA headquarters here said, Harmon and Dulles acquainted Lovett "with the problems faced by the motion picture industry as a result of the confiscatory tax on American motion picture earnings."

Dulles later also conferred with other State Department officials.

It was understood that the MPEA representatives were told that the Department was not yet prepared to take any stand on the matter, since it was still studying the British action in light of the three agreements.

Indications increased that the coming talks on relaxing the British loan pact hold the key to Britain's future action. If the convertibility requirements are relaxed, State Department officials held, the British government will switch from the tax to a remittance freeze.

One official said that the only other alternative he could think of was a quota, which would be legal under the trade agreements but "apparently does not suit the British purpose, since they want the extra money more than a mere cut in imports."

In some quarters it was expected that heavy Congressional pressure on the State Department could be expected soon, as the industry acquainted more Congressmen and Senators with its stand.

Dalton Denies

(*Continued from page* 1)

after the date of the tax order, Aug. 6, failing which the tax would lapse.

Meanwhile, however, the tax is legal but is not operating, due to the fact that no films are being brought into Britain.

Dalton conceded in reply to questions put by Earl Winterton, M.P., that the relation of the tax to the loan agreement and the rediscussion of the new quota bill may be among many matters on which the United States government may wish to express its views.

Meanwhile, there is no confirmation available in government quarters here of the widely held impression in the British and American film industries that the government is preparing a compromise for the new tax or is about to invite re-negotiation of the problem of remittances of American film earnings here.

"Body and Soul"

(*Continued from page* 1)

persuade him to give up his career when they see it is destroying his character, but he goes on for several years living riotously between fights and incurring increased indebtedness to the promoter. Finally the latter tells him it is orders to lose the title, on a decision, and he goes along with this to the extent of betting his last $60,000 against himself. But in the ring he does an about-face when the challenger tries to knock him out and wins the fight despite threats that he will be killed for doing so. The picture ends with his sweetheart rejoining him at conclusion of the fight before his crooked partners have opportunity to attempt reprisal for the double-cross.

The fight story, which is the principal one, is told with impressive candor and color, the fight sequences themselves being outstanding. Alongside this story runs a triangle theme, in which the hero vacillates between his true love, Miss Palmer, and a gold-digger, played by newcomer Hazel Brooks, with the odds about even most of the way. And in the background of these stands a tacit demonstration, brought to vocal focus in a brief speech by a minor character, of the fact that a citizen in a democracy may attain his objective regardless of his racial origin.

It is a powerful picture, rather than a pleasant one, and it is not for children. Its appeal is to the rugged emotions, rather than the tender ones, and men may like it better than women. There will be, however, no indifference about it.

Production by Bob Roberts is tip-top in every respect. Robert Rossen's direction is highly effective in registering solidly every step in Abraham Polonsky's tightly written, boldly conceived screenplay. All performances are excellent.

Running time, 104 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

U. K. Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

ish theatres will be able to continue in operation for another four to six months. They may be able to continue for another six months thereafter with new British films plus American reissues, after which theatres will begin to close "in dozens."

British films, the letter asserts, cannot fill the gap nor can any substantial increase in British production be expected. When British theatres close, British studios also will close and British stars may be expected to leave *en masse* for Hollywood.

The letter pointed out that American film companies voluntarily offered to permit the freezing of a percentage of their British revenue, an offer which could operate forthwith and effect an immediate dollar-saving to the nation.

This offer, the CEA said, was rejected instead of being made to form the basis for negotiation. That left the American companies no alternative but to withdraw.

"We cannot carry on except for a short time without them," the letter declared, and asked: "Is it your intention to obliterate the British industry? Has the necessity of providing workers with reasonable recreation passed since the war?"

"The whole trade is in a state of chaos and awaiting extinction. We ask the earliest indication of a resumption of negotiations with America," the letter concluded.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rivoli is seen bringing a very strong $45,000, while a good $103,000 is estimated for the third week of "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," plus Abbott and Costello on stage, at the Roxy. Smith and Dale will replace A. and C. in the fourth week, and "Mother Wore Tights" is scheduled to open at the Roxy on Aug. 20.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" will wind up its 38th and final week at the Astor today with a fairly impressive $14,000; "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" will bow in at the house tomorrow. A profitable $12,000 is estimated for the third week of "Gunfighters" at the Victoria. At the Capitol, "The Hucksters," paired with Tony and Sally DeMarco on stage, is heading for a sound $66,000 for a fourth week; third week brought $71,900.

"Brute Force" is standing up well in its fourth week at the Criterion with $30,000 in view. First week of "Green for Danger" at the Winter Garden will bring an estimated $28,500. A modestly impressive $17,500 is in store for the first week of "Northwest Outpost," at the Globe; picture is scheduled to make way for "The Roosevelt Story" on Aug. 21. At the Hollywood, whose name will be changed officially to the Warner Theatre when "Life With Father" opens there on Friday, "Possessed" will bow out after 11 weeks with a fair $13,000 expected to be chalked up for the final eight days. First week of the reissue pair, "Marked Woman" and "Dust Be My Destiny" (no stage show), is due for a good $46,000 at the Strand.

Another pair of reissues, "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" and "Let Us Live" is on the way to a fair $8,000 for a first week at the Gotham. The Palace's new program of a different reissue every day got off to a satisfactory start with $2,000 grossed by the opener, "Bells of St. Mary's." "They Won't Believe Me" stayed for four weeks at the Palace, bringing a mediocre $14,800 for the final six days.

Banks Suspend

(*Continued from page* 1)

a proposal for freezing of remittances it would have negotiated with the American industry before imposing the tax, since an acceptance of the American industry's voluntary offer to permit partial freezing of its remittances would not have violated the British loan agreement with this country. Therefore, they contend, Britain was not forced to the tax to avoid violation of the loan agreement, but chose that course deliberately and is not likely to offer any compromise which would change the present situation in any material respect.

New York financial men related yesterday that second money for independent production, customarily provided by financing companies, has dried up completely. Completion bonds, which formerly ran to about 10 per cent of the budget on a picture, will have to be for unlimited amounts and must be provided by wholly reliable principals in the future, they believe.

The primary money, usually provided by banks up to about 75 per cent, will not be available again until the British situation has been completely clarified, it was said, and then drastic changes are to be expected, either in the amounts advanced or in the form of requirements that the independent producer put designated percentages of his own money into his productions.

The current situation affects not only independent producers, but United Artists' recently announced plans to establish a $5,000,000 revolving fund for production financing, as well, bankers here said.

Motion Picture Shares Continue to Advance

Industry shares on the New York Stock Exchange yesterday continued to regain ground with stocks rising from fractions to two points.

Warner Predicts Rise In Business in Fall

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 12.—Warner officials here en route to Saratoga, while expressing concern over the British tax and its significance for American films, spoke optimistically of prospects for the film business in the fall. Harry Warner said he expects a decided pickup then, basing his judgment, he said, on the "fine pictures" available from his and other companies.

Of the British situation, Warner said "Life With Father" had escaped the British 75 per cent levy because it was shipped before the tax was announced.

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Majors Draft Wide Economy Programs Here

Industry - Wide Slashes On Way, Executives Say

By GENE ARNEEL

A program of sweeping economies just short of impairment of operating efficiency is being adopted by the major companies in direct consequence of the loss of British market revenues, a canvass of home office executives revealed yesterday.

As one high-placed official put it, drastic economical adjustments must be made in studio operations, distribution, affiliated exhibition and home office departments in order to cushion the blow of the virtual blackout of income from Great Britain when it comes.

It was ascertained that every major company has an expense-cutting project already in work or under active consideration, and while all are acting individually it has the effect of a joint industry efficiency move.

Executives here said that all home-office, exchange, studio and theatre departments must of necessity be "overhauled" and every effort exerted to reduce expenditures.

Studio activities are included in the

(Continued on page 6)

Michalson Elected RKO-Pathe President

The election of Harry J. Michalson, as president and director of RKO-Pathe, Inc., was disclosed yesterday by Ned E. Depinet, vice-chairman of the RKO-Pathe board, following a meeting of the board. William H. Clark was elected a director and vice-president in charge of finances. Jay Bonafield is vice-president and general manager.

Michalson is short subjects sales manager, and Clark, treasurer, of RKO Radio. Both will continue in their several posts.

The board accepted the resignations of Frederic Ullman, Jr., as president, and that of Walton C. Ament as vice-president.

Mono. Bans Filming Of 'Maze' in Britain

Because of the British tax, Jeffrey Bernerd, Monogram producer, has cancelled his proposed trip to England for the filming of a large portion of the Mari Sandoz novel, "The Maze."

Bernerd had previously made reservations for Aug. 27.

Allied Aims to Have Producers Pay Ascap

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13. — Allied States' endeavors to promote in Congress a bill which would include American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers public performance rights in film producers' rights, thus eliminating the necessity of theatremen's fees to Ascap, Abram Myers, Allied counsel, said in effect here today.

Myers said that the new bill would very closely resemble one pushed by Allied in 1931-32, but which was buried by a House committee. He declined to further identify the measure, but it was learned from another source that it was one designed to have the producers absorb exhibitor Ascap costs.

Industry Dividends Rise 40% in 1947

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Dividend payments by motion picture firms during the first half of 1947 totalled $24,286,000, approximately 40.5 per cent ahead of the $17,292,000 disbursed in the first six months of 1946, the Commerce Department reported today. Dividends in the second quarter amounted to $12,616,000, compared with $8,900,000 in the like 1946 period. This was a gain of 41.8 per cent, slightly higher than the 39.1 per cent by which 1947 first quarter payments exceeded the figure for the first three months of 1946.

BFPA ASKS U.S. TO JOIN TAX FIGHT

Want Joint Committee To Devise Alternative For Attlee Government

By WILLIAM PAY

LONDON, Aug. 13.—In the first concrete move to devise an alternative to the drastic 300 per cent British ad valorem duty on film imports to be taken in the week since the Treasury imposed the tax, the British Film Producers Association, in special meeting here today, proposed the formation of a joint Anglo-American advisory committee to deal directly with the government on the matter.

Invitations to serve on the joint advisory committee already are on their way to leaders of the American industry.

"We are anxious to meet the Americans as soon as possible," said Sir Henry French, director general of the BFPA. "We have concrete proposals to offer. Moreover, we are ready to meet the government, any time, any where."

Sir Henry added that while much of the advisory committee's work

(Continued on page 6)

Anglo - U.S. Loan Talks Start Mon.

Washington, Aug. 13.—The conferences on liberalization of terms of the British Loan agreement, which it is widely believed will include discussion of Britain's drastic tax on American films, and which could result in an early "break" in that situation, will get under way here on Monday, Secretary of the Treasury Snyder said.

The British delegation, due here by plane this weekend, is headed by Sir Wilfred Eady, special assistant to Chancellor of the Exchequer Hugh Dalton.

Legion Condemns 'Black Narcissus'

Universal-International's J. Arthur Rank importation, "Black Narcissus," has been placed in Class C (Condemned) by the National Legion of Decency. The picture, produced in England by Michael Powell and

(Continued on page 6)

British Tax Action May Step Up US 16mm. There

Intensification of 16mm. operations in England by the American distributors is likely to follow the British import duty action, and resultant U. S. product shipment ban if the situation between the two countries is not modified, according to narrow-gauge overseas operation sources here.

The companies whose 16mm. operations are well-established in England, notably Loew's, Columbia and Universal, have access not only to large numbers of 35mm. prints which are duty-free by virtue of having been in vaults there when the 75 per cent-of-earnings import tax was imposed, but also to the facilities for reducing 35mm. to the narrower gauge. Hence, they are in a position to step up 16mm. production operations almost at will, and it is expected they will resort to increased 16mm. activity sooner or later in an effort to compensate, however small a measure it may be, for the revenue which will be lost by virtue of the discontinuance of product shipments. It is possible that the British tax action may precipitate a 16mm. boom in Britain, where, heretofore, narrow-gauge operations proved to be far from spectacular.

Loew's International has its 16mm. operations firmly rooted in England and its narrow-gauge overseas department is "impervious" to ill effects of the British tax action, according to 16mm. overseas director Orton H. Hicks. Thus far the company has released some 48 16mm. pictures in Britain since it put its narrow-gauge program into operation there a little less than a year ago, and has access to over 500 35mm. prints which can be

(Continued on page 6)

Meyer Is Elected UAT Vice-President

Stanley Meyer, who recently resigned as a district manager in Los Angeles for Fox West Coast, has been elected a vice-president, general manager and a director of United Artists Theatre Circuit and its subsidiaries, as forecast in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Aug. 11. UAT board made the appointment, it was announced yesterday by Joseph M. Schenck, board chairman and president of Metropolitan Playhouses. Meyer was also elected a director of Skouras

(Continued on page 6)

UA Developing More Foreign Operations

Stepped up operations by United Artists in the foreign field were reported here yesterday by Walter Gould, foreign manager, who placed considerable stress on what he called an "unprecedented and significant"

(Continued on page 6)

Personal Mention

NATE BLUMBERG, Universal-International president, left New York yesterday for the Coast.

•

Charles D. Prutzman, Universal vice-president and general counsel, and Mrs. Prutzman became grandparents with the birth of a daughter on Tuesday to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Prutzman, Jr., at Bellefonte, Pa., where the new father is a student at State College.

•

Jack F. Dailey, assistant to Gus Eyssell, Radio City Music Hall president, has been assigned as commanding officer of the personal affairs section of the First Army Organized Reserve.

•

Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager for Warner, is on a trip to New Orleans and Memphis from New York.

•

Harold Rodner, assistant general manager of Warner Service Corp., is in Cleveland and is due back here at the weekend.

•

Lou Novins, assistant to Paramount president Barney Balaban, will return to New York today from Washington.

•

David Whalen, representative for Gene Autry, is in town from the Coast.

•

Frederic Ullman, Jr., left here yesterday for Hollywood.

McNamara Heads Ascap Publicity

Dan McNamara, veteran newspaper reporter, has been appointed advertising-publicity chief of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers here, to work under Richard Murray. He succeeds Richard Frohlich, whose new position has yet to be defined. McNamara has had various assistant executive assignments since he joined Ascap about a year ago.

Regal Ltd. Name Change

Toronto, Aug. 13.—After operating for many years as Regal Films, Ltd., with its head office here, the Canadian distributing company for M-G-M will have its name changed to M-G-M Pictures of Canada, Ltd. This was announced at the first Canadian regional sales meeting of the agency in seven years by Henry L. Nathanson, Regal president, at the Royal York Hotel.

A. G. Smith Shifted

Allen G. Smith, formerly circuit sales manager of National Theatre Supply, and former chief of the theatre equipment section of the War Production Board, has been appointed manager of the company's Chicago branch. He succeeds R. W. Dassow, who resigned to become a partner in the Chris Bendsen Co.

Warner Pathe News Makes Bow Here

The new issue of Warner Pathe News made its debut yesterday in pre-release showings in New York City theatres. General release of the new reel is set for Aug. 17.

With the exception of the new trademark, there are virtually no changes in the format from the old RKO Pathe Newsreel. It still has the famous rooster crowing. Subsequently, however, changes are expected to be made, with reports that part or all of the reel may be in color.

Dwight Feist, who has been narrator for Pathe News for several years, has been signed to continue as narrator for Warner-Pathe News.

SETOA Meet Hears Harmon on MPA

Miami, Aug. 13.—Further discussion of the Motion Picture Foundation, reports on the theatre fire situation, analyses of the operations of the Motion Picture Association, and the Motion Picture Export Association, and views on the trend in new theatre designs were highlights of the second session, held today, of the three-day annual convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners of America. SETOA president Mack Jackson presided.

Francis Harmon, MPA vice-president, explained the work of the MPA and the MPEA and said foreign countries try to get pictures showing America's free enterprise at its worst.

Hal Periera of Paramount Service Corp. said that radical changes in theatre designs will not come for some time. Other speakers were Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president, and Robert Barton, counsel of the Confederacy of Southern Associations.

Studios 'Appeased' Unions: Freeman

Los Angeles, Aug. 13.—When conflicts arose between studio unions, "producers had to adopt an appeasement policy, and were forced to do business with those capable of doing the companies the most economic harm," Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount studio executive, today told the House Labor Subcommittee investigating union practices.

"The power of IATSE to cut off revenues at the boxoffice in every part of the nation was a factor in studio labor decisions," the Paramount vice-president declared, pointing out that since the companies do not have dollar reserves, they are dependent upon money taken in from day to day for operations. He also asserted that he found himself with no control over the business he was supposed to operate, because unions had encroached upon management.

UK Press Supports Tax; Theatres Don't

London, Aug. 13.—The Attlee government will be supported on its imposition of the 300 per cent duty on imported films and there will be no mourning the stoppage of shipments of American films, in consequence of the duty, if the British press, never exactly a friend of Hollywood's, is the criterion.

British exhibitors, much closer to the cinema patron than is the press, disagree with the latter.

Approximately 90 per cent of press expression on the stoppage of American films is sympathetic to the government and critical of Hollywood. Typical expressions in the press:

Daily Mirror: "Let them (the American industry) yell! While the country is fighting for its life the people won't tolerate waste on American films. All the nation wants is plain. Given this, films and other fol-de-rols won't matter."

Times: "If dollar payments for food were to be cut, it would be intolerable. But for films, it is not. However, the hasty government action does not promise any immediate dollar saving."

Express: "The government does well to impose this heavy tax. The nation should give it its support."

British exhibitors, however, predict their theatres will be closed in six months if the duty is not changed and point out that when the theatres close so will the British studios. The man-in-the-street here admits he wants Hollywood films but, until the pinch begins to be felt, he can't be expected to yell.

Pioneer to Distribute SRO Films in Canada

Physical distribution of Selznick films in Canada will be handled by Pioneer Films, Ltd., Neil F. Agnew, president of the Selznick Releasing Corp., disclosed yesterday.

First film to be handled by Pioneer will be "Duel in the Sun," which will probably be roadshown in most of Canada's key city situations. Second picture set for release will be Alfred Hitchcock's "The Paradine Case," and the third, "Portrait for Jenny," now in final stages of production.

Charles Weiner, Dominion division manager, has set up SRO executive offices in the Letros Building in Toronto.

Advise House Group On Tax Revisions

Washington, Aug. 13. — Joint Treasury-Congressional recommendations on revising excise taxes will be given the House Ways and Means Committee when it returns in November to resume hearings on general tax revision, it was learned today.

Officials would not give any indication what specific recommendations would be made, but merely said that representatives of the Treasury Department and the joint Congressional committee on internal revenue taxation have been meeting, and would have recommendations ready this fall.

No Pact, No Work After Aug. 22: SAG

Hollywood, Aug. 13.—The Screen Actors Guild, in a letter to all producers, today notified them that SAG members would not work for any producers who have not signed a guild contract before Aug. 22. The letter urges them to sign a pact equivalent to that made recently with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Associates Launch MPF Members Drive

Motion Picture Associates, which is the backbone of the Greater New York area unit of the Motion Picture Foundation, has launched a 1947 membership drive in an effort to bolster its ranks in behalf of the MPF, it was disclosed here yesterday by Associates president Fred J. Schwartz. Schwartz has appointed Irving Wormser of Columbia chairman of the membership drive.

Since the early stages of MPF organizational activity in New York, it has been proposed that the Associates become the administrative agency in the area, Schwartz said.

Grand Curtails Film Shipments to Britain

Grand International Pictures disclosed yesterday that it has decided to curtail film shipments to England following present commitments, which called for delivery of 12 two-reel comedy shorts.

An earlier contract committed the organization to production and delivery of 12 comedies of the series, with an option on an additional 14. Action on the option will be indefinitely postponed, according to J. J. Balaber, vice-president of Grand International.

Schine Chiefs Back Revised Ad Code

Gloversville, N. Y., Aug. 13.—Full backing was given to the newly-revised Motion Picture Association advertising code today at a meeting of Schine Circuit division and district managers here.

Christy Wilbert, advertising manager for 20th Century-Fox, outlined the details of the code and the program of the Advertising Advisory Council, headed by Charles Schlaifer, to bring the program to the full attention of every part and branch of the industry.

Wolfe Joins WB-Pathe

Lewis Wolfe, formerly with RKO, has joined Warner Brothers to handle home office bookings of the Warner Pathe News, it was announced yesterday by Norman H. Moray, president of the Warner newsreel organization. Wolfe will be assisted by Calvin Leeder, formerly home office field representative for the Warner distribution department.

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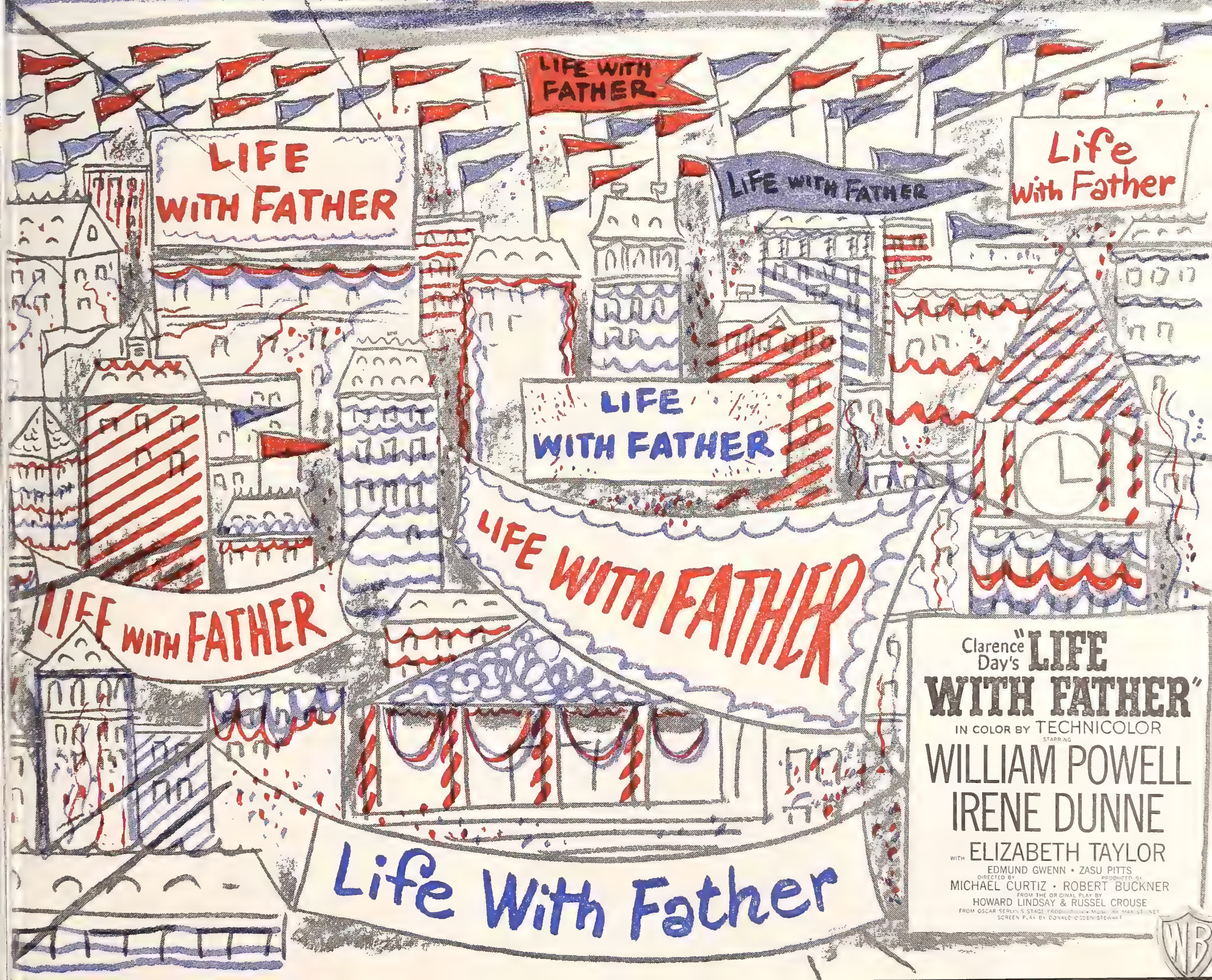
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Clarence Day's **"LIFE WITH FATHER"**
IN COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
STARRING
WILLIAM POWELL
IRENE DUNNE
WITH **ELIZABETH TAYLOR**
EDMUND GWENN • ZASU PITTS
DIRECTED BY MICHAEL CURTIZ • PRODUCED BY ROBERT BUCKNER
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HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSEL CROUSE
FROM OSCAR SERLIN'S STAGE PRODUCTION • MUSIC BY MAX STEINER
SCREEN PLAY BY DONALD OGDEN STEWART

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THEY'RE BOXOF

WELCOME STRANGER

"Giant, colossal house record in Detroit" tops "Going My Way" by 60%...

Tops "Going My Way" in Minneapolis 1st week...

Tops "Going My Way" in New York opening...

Tops "Going My Way" in Rochester opening...

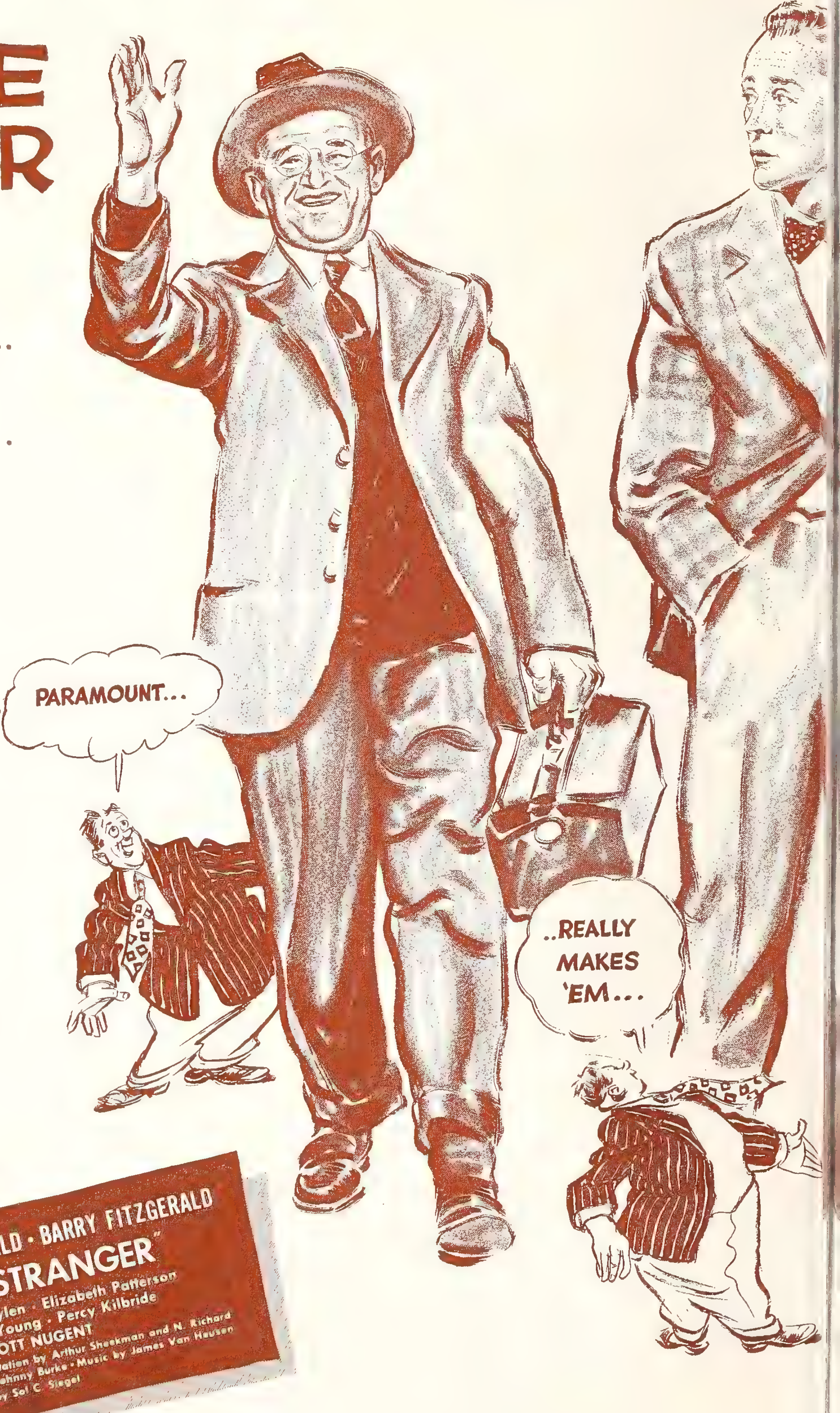
Tops "Going My Way" in Kansas City opening...

Tops "Going My Way" in Fort Worth opening..

All-time record in San Francisco...

"Doubled average gross in Chicago!"—*M. P. Daily*

And N. Y. Sun's "Best of the Crosby comedies... even better than 'Going My Way'," keys the Broadway bouquets for...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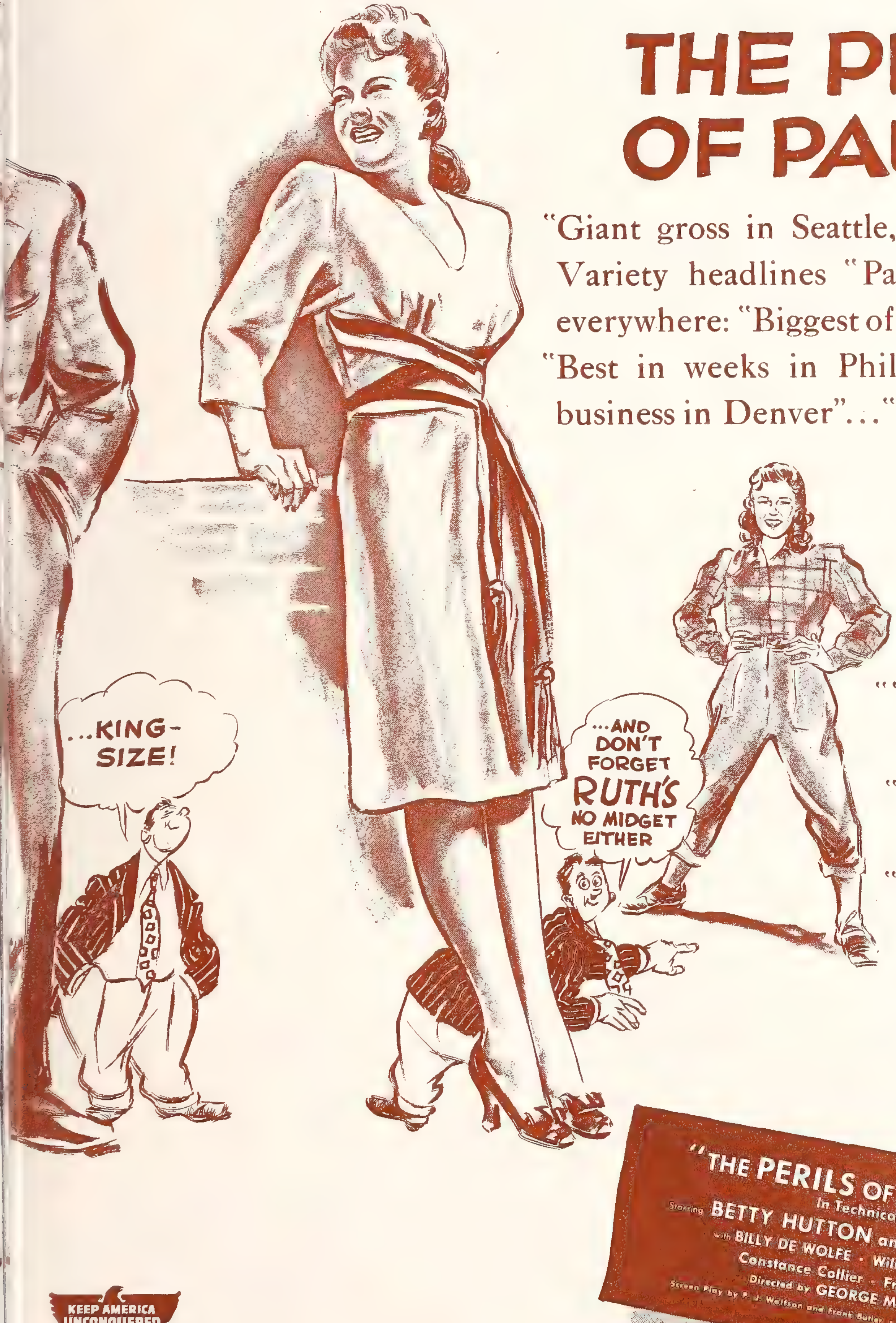
Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT
Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman · Adaptation by Arthur Sheekman and N. Richard Nash · Story by Frank Butler · Lyrics by Johnny Burke · Music by James Van Heusen
Produced by Sol C. Siegel

"GIANTS!"

Says *VARIETY*

THE PERILS OF PAULINE

"Giant gross in Seattle," *says Variety* . . . And Variety headlines "Pauline's" performance everywhere: "Biggest of the year in Omaha" . . . "Best in weeks in Philadelphia" . . . "Rousing business in Denver" . . . "Solid in Baltimore" . . .


...KING-SIZE!
...AND DON'T FORGET RUTH'S NO MIDGET EITHER

"'Dear Ruth' remarkable long run film, St. Louis" —*Variety*

"Unusual power in 3rd week, Kansas City" —*Variety*

"Biggest in Philadelphia" —*Variety*

All-time, all-picture record in Beaumont, Tex.

Topping "Two Years Before The Mast" in holdover weeks!

"THE PERILS OF PAULINE"
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with BILLY DE WOLFE · William Damarest
Constance Collier · Frank Faylen
Directed by GEORGE MARSHALL
Screen Play by P. J. Wolfson and Frank Butler · Produced by Sol C. Siegel

KEEP AMERICA UNCONQUERED

BFPA Asks US

(*Continued from page* 1)

could be transacted by cable, a meeting either in London or New York, would be necessary.

"We are taking this action," Sir Henry said, "on the assumption that it is not the intent of the government to impose upon the industry the dire results which we have predicted will follow its tax action. We are not going to waste time."

Referring to claims made by the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association that British theatres will begin to close within a year if the present situation continues, Sir Henry said:

"A year is a long time."

The BFPA said it took the position that the government must have foreseen all the possible results of its tax action beforehand and, because of the seriousness of those results, the BFPA assumes the main purpose of the government's action is to effect a "temporary halt" of imported films to gain time to consider the best method of balancing remittances.

BFPA stated it never has been its aim to achieve a monopoly for British films in the home market, but that it only sought a satisfactory method of regulating imported films through an improved Quota Act.

The organization today agreed to examine every possibility of increasing British production and expressed confidence that it could do so with the assistance of an improved Quota Act. It also agreed that with the cooperation of the government on building materials supplies for studio expansion within two or three years, it could not only increase production for the home market, but expand film exports and thus help to balance the nation's budget.

The BFPA said that American stars committed to pictures to be made here will continue their assignments.

Meanwhile, the Association of Cinematograph Technicians have expressed support of the government's film tax, describing it as "an excellent opportunity for the British industry" and urging that every effort be made to increase production here. It requested discussions with the BFPA on the subject.

The National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, however, opposed ACT's views, stating that its principal objections are to the method the government adopted and the manner in which the American and British industries were overridden.

CLUE TO A HIT!
3
GREEN FOR DANGER
"Loaded with suspense! Make a note to see it!"
—N.Y. DAILY NEWS
THE SCREEN'S UNPARALLELED ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

Review

"Kiss of Death"

(*20th Century-Fox*) *Hollywood, Aug.* 13

THIS grim and suspenseful story of a criminal who tries to escape from the quicksands of the underworld and to gain revenge on a betrayer pal by turning squealer takes rank with select cops-and-crooks classics of screen. Besides stark realism and high-pitched dramatic intensity, it has such marquee names in stellar roles as Victor Mature and Brian Donlevy, with Richard Widmark turning in such a blood-chilling performance as a psychopathic killer that he, too, rates top billing.

Not to be overlooked for boxoffice benefit are name scripters, Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer. With the former in his element with a criminology theme, nerve-jangling suspense starts the opening scene, continuing in ever-mounting crescendo until the explosive finish.

As leader of a mob of jewel thieves, Mature is shot by police during an attempted robbery. Sticking to the underworld code against squealing, he scorns the district attorney's leniency offers and takes a prison rap, confident his pals and his shyster attorney will spring him on parole. When they do not come through, and he learns they have not kept their promise to care for his wife and children, and that his wife has committed suicide, desire to get outside and achieve revenge causes him to turn squealer.

When Widmark, as a sadistic killer he met in jail, gets out first and kills the wife's betrayer, Mature manages a parole and decides to go straight with his two children. When police insist he testify against Widmark for murder, his love for his children and desire to be with them causes him to assent. When the seemingly perfect case against Widmark fails, he is forced to hide out with his new wife and children to escape the killer's vengeance. His meeting finally with the killer stalking him, and his last do-or-die attempt to aid the law, brings a smash surprise to the finish of the film.

Credit for the high dramatic intensity of the film and the realistic backgrounds and general mounting goes to the director, Henry Hathaway, and producer Fred Kohlmar. Other cast members aiding in the general all-around fine acting of the story's roles are Coleen Gray, Taylor Holmes, Howard Smith, Karl Malden and Mildred Dunnock.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult classification. Release date not set.

W. J. McG.

Wide Economy

(*Continued from page* 1)

programs, it was said, but every source indicated that actual production will be left untouched, at least temporarily. By way of explanation it was reported that budgets will be unaffected and that no numerical reduction in film making is immediately in view.

Varying estimates from high quarters indicated that the companies stand to lose from $6,000,000 to $8,000,000 each annually as a result of the boycott of the British market.

A drop in receipts from England is anticipated about January, when new pictures now in that country for the most part will have played out their initial runs, according to spokesmen here. Thereafter remittances will dwindle sharply, it was said, unless a "break" in the overall situation develops.

No company is said to be giving thought to calling a halt to operations of its British subsidiaries which can be sustained on reissues rentals and spread-out releases after the first of the year.

MPA Plans Poll on Possible Suggestions

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—Members of the Motion Picture Association will be polled on any proposal offered by the British film industry as an alternative to the 75 per cent tax, it was stated here today by Joyce O'Hara, assistant to MPA president Eric Johnston.

O'Hara said the MPA had not yet received any official British industry proposal, though dispatches from London said the British film-makers had suggested that the joint advisory committee of the Anglo-American film industries call a conference of both British and American film-makers to discuss alternatives.

UA Developing

(*Continued from page* 1)

deal for the distribution in Latin America of five Argentine productions. The deal was approved by the UA board on Aug. 5, reported the following day, but obscured by other board action including the election of Gradwell L. Sears as president of the company, Gould said.

UA has an option on global distribution of the Argentine pictures which will come from Sur Cinematographica of Argentina.

The UA foreign department already has signed for one French picture and another appears forthcoming, has another in England and the company is considering distribution of an Italian picture, Gould said.

In all cases the arrangements are for distribution in limited areas, with UA taking options on world-wide handling, he added.

Step Up 16mm.

(*Continued from page* 1)

reduced to 16mm., Hicks said.

Columbia, which distributes in 16mm. in England through Wigmore Distributing Co., and Universal-International are both more or less as fortunate as Loew's.

RKO Radio, which was slated to put its 16mm. British program into operation as of July 1, has yet to invade that market there. Twentieth-Fox has as yet no British narrow-gauge schedule and neither has Paramount. Warners "has no plans as yet" for British 16mm. releasing operations. These companies, of course, have access to vaulted 35mm. prints for conversion into 16mm., but the fact that they have not as yet gotten underway with their British 16mm. programs appears to be due as much to difficulty in securing "reducing" facilities as to the market's having inspired little enthusiasm up to now.

Legion Condemns

(*Continued from page* 1)

Emeric Pressburger, opened yesterday at the Fulton Theatre here.

The Legion declared: "The character of this film and the attitudes displayed therein create an impression that constitutes an affront to religion and religious life. It ignores the spiritual motivation which is the foundation and safeguard of religious life and it offensively tends to characterize such life as an escape for the abnormal, the neurotic and the frustrated."

Four other films most recently reviewed by the Legion have been placed in Class A-II. They are: "The Great Dawn" (Italian), Superfilm; "Green for Danger," Eagle-Lion, and "The Hat Mystery" and "Killer Dill," both Screen Guild.

Lawrence Defends 'Narcissus' As PCA-Approved Picture

Jock Lawrence, vice-president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, in commenting on the National Legion of Decency's condemnation of "Black Narcissus" said here yesterday that, although the Legion had previously asked the company to withdraw the picture, the company declined to do so because the script had been officially approved by Joseph I. Breen, head of the Production Code Administration after certain changes which Breen had suggested were made. The completed film, he added, was shown to Breen's Hollywood office immediately upon arrival in this country, whereupon the PCA seal of approval was given the film.

Meyer Is Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

Theatres and Randforce Amusement.

The board also elected George P. Skouras a vice-president and director of UAT, and the Metropolitan Playhouses board elected him executive vice-president of that subsidiary. Raymond V. Wemple was elected treasurer of UAT and Metropolitan and A. H. Frisch was elected a director of Metropolitan.

William P. Philips, who resigned as an officer and director of Metropolitan and as an officer of UAT, will continue as a director of the latter corporation.

Nu-Screen at Astor

Opening of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" at the Astor Theatre here today will be marked with the theatre's first use of a new concave-convex Fiberglas Nu-Screen which has been installed there. Screen is said to provide a larger and brighter image while eliminating distortion.

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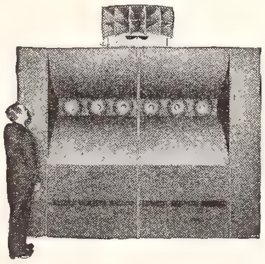

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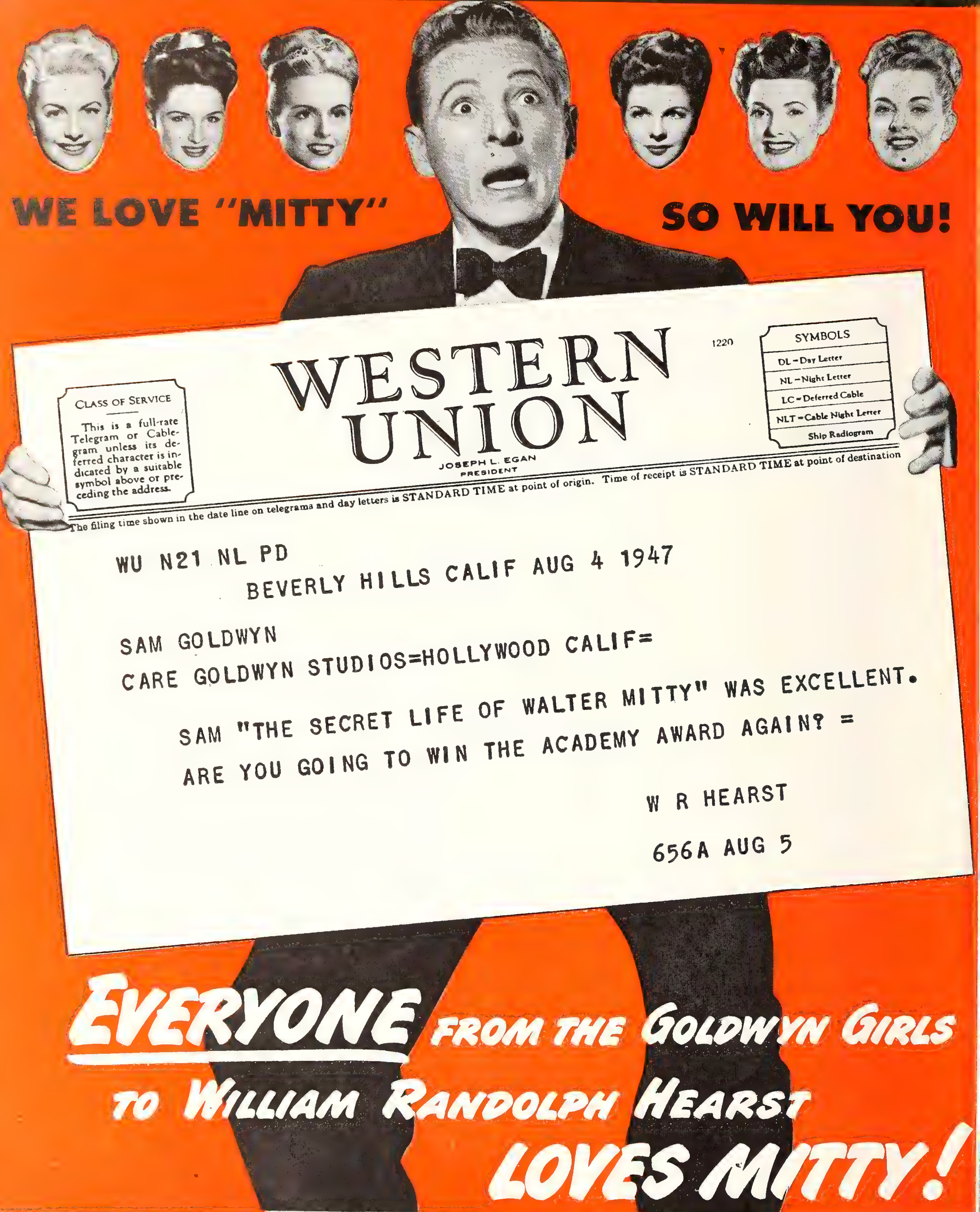
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VOL. 62. NO. 33 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 15, 1947 TEN CENTS

Independents Impose Ban on Films for UK

Implement Earlier Plan To Halt All Shipments

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—Independent producing-distributing companies have formally implemented their earlier indicated willingness to join the member companies of the Motion Picture Export Association in halting all shipments of film to Britain for an indefinite period in consequence of that country's imposition of a confiscatory 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty on imported films.

The independent companies include Republic, Monogram-Allied Artists, Eagle-Lion, PRC, Screen Guild Prod. and others.

William Saal, speaking for H. J.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Delay in Action on MPA Brief is Seen

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Industry and Government spokesmen today agreed that there is little likelihood of any early official action on the basis of the British tax brief recently filed

(*Continued on page 7*)

Stay Granted in Jackson Park Suit

Chicago, Aug. 14.—The U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has granted the defendants in the Jackson Park antitrust case a 60-day stay of mandate to provide time for appeal to the Supreme Court, it was announced here.

Previously Federal Judge Igoe had enjoined the defendants from limiting first-run films to Chicago's Loop theatres. The Circuit Court of Appeals then upheld Igoe's injunction by ruling that the so-called "Chicago System" of distribution constituted an illegality under the Sherman Anti-Trust act. The Jackson Park Theatre was also granted triple damages of $360,000. Defendants include the major picture distributors and Balaban & Katz and Warner Theatre Circuits.

Settlement of Gov't Ascap Case in View

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Justice Department officials indicated today that the Department's anti-trust suit against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers might be settled in the near future.

Although a Department spokesman declined to reveal details of the possible settlement, he said that counsel for the defense was now working with Government attorneys on a consent decree.

Justice officials stated previously that ASCAP's withdrawal from the International Conference did not supply the relief asked for in the Department's suit. It would be necessary, they said, for ASCAP to give

(*Continued on page 6*)

Plan U-I Sales Head Meeting Next Week

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—Release plans for Universal-International's new program will be formulated at a series of meetings here of the U-I sales cabinet, next week, to be presided over by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager.

Discussions will be held with William Goetz, in charge of production, and screenings of recently completed pictures will be held. Those attending the meetings will include: Nate J. Blumberg, president; Matthew Fox, executive vice-president; A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager; E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Scully; F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian sales manager; C. J. Feldman, Western sales manager, and Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager.

U.S. Leaders Silent On BFPA Proposal

A stony silence which augurs nothing very favorable was the response here yesterday to the British Film Producers Association proposal of Wednesday that the joint Anglo-U. S. film advisory committee be convened to prepare alternative proposals to the British films tax for presentation to the Attlee government.

Barney Balaban of Paramount and Nicholas Schenck of Loew's had no comment, indicating that Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and third American member of the committee, was "carrying the ball." Only silence came from Johnston's home in Spokane where he is vacationing.

RKO Quarter Net Is $2,836,663

Consolidated net profit of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp. and subsidiary companies for the second quarter of 1947 was $2,836,663 (including profit on the sale of capital assets), after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 72 cents per share on the 3,924,913 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of that quarter. This compares with consolidated net profit for the second quarter of 1946 of $3,205,398, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 84 cents per

(*Continued on page 6*)

"Life With Father"

[*Warner Brothers*] — Sure Cure for What Ails Business

Hollywood, Aug. 14

EXHIBITORS concerned with what's been called everything from a recession to a reconversion can stop worrying about it for the duration of the "Life With Father" run. Warner Brothers' production of the stage play that made all that Broadway and road-company history is a picture to bring back to any man's theatre all those old customers who've been amusing themselves elsewhere and a horde of new ones he hasn't met before. It's a picture better than its billing and—with William Powell, Irene Dunne, Edmund Gwenn and Elizabeth Taylor for the marquee, that's quite a statement—it's for all the people, everywhere, with no exceptions.

As has become universally known, the play by Howard Lindsay and Russell Crouse sets forth the domestic life of a family which lived in New York in 1883, dwelling on the intimate and not at all tremendous incidents of daily living, and paralleling in general the domestic life of families everywhere. Donald Ogden Stewart's screenplay, from which Michael Curtiz directed with keen understanding for Producer Robert Buckner, does the same thing, but does it with the added facility of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Economy Cut On Regardless Of Tax Accord

Say Loss of U.K. Income Obvious With Any Pact

Regardless of the outcome of the British loan talks to begin in Washington next week, and the British Film Producers Association's efforts to remedy the United Kingdom's tax situation, film companies here intend to keep in effect their programs of economical adjustments.

High ranking industry executives said here yesterday that the adoption of even the best compromise arrangement possible with the British obviously would still mean a substantial loss of revenue from England. They added that the loss must be made up in a reduction of expenditures.

One company president said it is "fundamental for us to economize."

The programs of expense-cutting for the most part have been put on long-term basis, that is, no hasty slashes. Instead, it is said, the companies will effect economies in mat-

(*Continued on page 7*)

SETOA Backs Ban On Films to Britain

MIAMI, Aug. 14.—Endorsement of the industry ban on further shipments of films to Britain, and thanks to the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association of Great Britain for its efforts to seek repeal of the British tax, were

(*Continued on page 7*)

SIMPP Urges U. S. Aid on British Tax

Hollywood, Aug. 14.—The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers' committee appointed to study the British situation has wired the State Department over SIMPP president Nelson's signature that SIMPP relies solely on that department to safeguard independent producers' interests with respect to British tax developments. The telegram, not released for publication, urges the department to consult all phases of the American industry as negotiations proceed.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

ARNOLD C. CHILDHOUSE, MPEA general maner in Holland; LILLI PALMER and REX HARRISON, her husband, are mong passengers who will sail for Europe tomorrow on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

MILTON S. KUSELL, domestic and Canadian sales chief for Selznick Releasing Organization, will begin a tour today of SRO offices in the Eastern territory.

•

MAURICE JANOV, special assistant to Selznick International Pictures vice-president and treasurer E. L. SCANLON, left Hollywood yesterday by plane for New York.

•

JACK FINBERG, United Artists branch manager in Cincinnati, is in town for talks with EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, Eastern and Canadian sales manager.

•

D. E. MERFIELD, operating manager in charge of engineering for Western Electric Co. of India, will arrive here tomorrow by plane from Bombay.

•

ROBERT M. GILLHAM, Eastern advertising-publicity manager of Selznick Releasing Organization, returned here yesterday from Toronto.

•

JAN GRIPPO, Monogram producer, will leave Hollywood today by plane for New York.

•

SAM L. SEIDELMAN, Eagle-Lion foreign chief, has begun a trip through Mexico and South America.

•

I. E. LOPERT, head of Lopert Films, returned here yesterday from Paris on the *SS America.*

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GEORGE WALDMAN, Film Classics metropolitan district manager, is in Boston from New York.

•

SAM DEMBOW, JR., president of Producers Service Corp., left here for Texas yesterday.

C. B. Hawley Dies; Headed First Nat'l

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 14.—Clifford B. Hawley, 58, former president of First National Pictures, Inc., and vice-president of the Bankers Securities Corp. of Philadelphia from 1931 to 1945, died here last night. He lived in Germantown, Pa.

He entered the motion picture business as representative of Edward B. Smith and Co. in the Stanley Co. which subsequently grew to be the largest film circuit in the East. In 1927 he acquired an interest in First National, which entered the international under his direction through a merger of First National, Ltd., with Pathe, Ltd. He left First National in 1928.

Surviving are his wife, a son and three daughters.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE American companies have passed the ball to London where the British Film Producers' Association on Wednesday picked it up. The BFPA is striking for an Anglo-American film huddle to discuss "concrete proposals" in the British tax situation.

Meanwhile, time is on our side. And so, too, are events. British producers, almost to a man, are in an uproar over the premature strangulation which faces their films in this country, although their trade association takes the position English production can fill the yawning gap to be created eventually by the withdrawal of American films. This is contingent upon a substantial assist from their government in a new Quota Act, plus necessary building materials to expand their studio potential. However, two to three years must elapse, even in their most sanguine hopes.

British exhibitors, meanwhile, are very vocal in a formal protest to Prime Minister Attlee in which they foresee an early debacle if the flow of American product is interrupted. Thus, the situation is both unique and dramatic in that the British and American industries are allies facing a common opponent.

■

The Labor Government cannot be above this situation. While the American industry would face a perilous cut in revenue, the home market—always the primary market—remains intact and rich enough to return $5,000,000—and a profit—to distributors lucky enough to have the kind of attraction warranting such rentals.

Lack of studio space currently precludes Britain's production capacity from meeting the requirements of her exhibitors even on the broadest of assumptions that every English film is sure-fire box-office. Her native-made product is revealing astonishing strides there and, in many instances, is known to have outrun Hollywood's. The one point inescapable, however, is that numerically there is not enough English production to keep her houses open.

■

To be reckoned as well is the direction in which the greater harm will have been perpetrated if the present situation is not resolved in a middle-ground area. The American producer and the American exhibitor will not go out of business, but the British exhibitor cannot find comfort in the same assurance. The American producer may find it required, finally, to make stern readjustment—and let it be certain he will not whitewash Hollywood in the doing—but the British exhibitor may find the avenues of readjustment open to him severely constricted.

■

If his theatre has to close eventually, moreover, Britain will lose his entertainment tax. He will be compelled to discharge employes who may or may not find ready jobs elsewhere in British industry. Britain's internal economy well might be confronted with a problem of size as her treasury is shorn of millions of pounds.

The extent of public resentment over the inability to see one of its most popular forms of entertainment may be delayed in rising, but when the pinch is seriously felt eruption could follow.

Misconceptions in the daily press are not helping a full understanding of such an involved siuation. In a dispatch to the New York *Herald-Tribune* from London yesterday, Don Cook concluded what no other New York newspaper or trade paper found to be the fact when he read into BFPA's deliberations a "declaration of independence from Hollywood." Had British producers struck out for autonomy, there would be no need for a joint meeting with American film leaders who merely ask the right to operate independently of a tax levy which can be viewed only as confiscatory.

■

In a decidedly minor key, such wisecracks as emanate from the typewriter of Miss C. A. Lejeune, film critic of the London *Sunday Observer*, become a source of annoyance. To Eric Johnston's statement, "If the British . . . want American pictures . . . they shouldn't expect to get a dollar's worth for a quarter," she writes "for too long we have been paying a dollar for 25 cents worth of entertainment."

Part and parcel of the general British press campaign of vituperation against American films, this is a smart line proving nothing. If Miss Lejeune's purpose is accurate reporting, she ought to go to the people.

They would tell her.

Jack Kriendler, '21' Proprietor, Dies

Jack Kriendler, founder and proprietor of "21," restaurant widely frequented by New York, Hollywood and London film personalities, died suddenly midnight Wednesday from a heart attack. He had not been ill.

Kriendler was 48 and is survived by his widow, Louisa Bertini Kriendler: three brothers, H. Peter, Maxwell A. and I. Robert, all identified with the management of "21"; and Mrs. Augusta Axelrod, Mrs. A [illegible] Tannenbaum, Mrs. Eunice Sercus and Mrs. Beatrice Sideman, sisters.

Funeral services will be held at the Riverside Memorial Chapel at noon today.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN
WM. HOLDEN
JOAN CAULFIELD
'DEAR RUTH'
IN PERSON
HENNY YOUNGMAN
HENRY 'Red' ALLEN & BAND
Extra!
EUGENIE BAIRD

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
in Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW"
with MARK STEVENS • JUNE HAVER
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE IN PERSON!
SMITH and DALE - JOE HOWARD
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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THE *look-of-the-month* FOR AUGUST!

looking up!

Motion Picture Herald acclaims MIRACLE ON 34th STREET a box-office champion! Winner of Boxoffice Magazine Blue Ribbon Award! *Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmund Gwenn.* I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW 4th Week Chicago—New York, holdovers, moveovers everywhere! *June Haver, Mark Stevens—Technicolor.*

looking 'em over!

Trade press critics this week will see two of 20th's great new attractions—MOTHER WORE TIGHTS starring Betty Grable with Dan Dailey—Technicolor too!...and KISS OF DEATH starring Victor Mature, Brian Donlevy and Coleen Gray. (*"This One Was Written With A Machine Gun," Says Walter Winchell*). *Read the reviews next week!*

looking ahead!

The whole industry is looking forward to THE FOXES OF HARROW *Rex Harrison, Maureen O'Hara,* NIGHTMARE ALLEY *Tyrone Power, Joan Blondell, Coleen Gray, Helen Walker,* DAISY KENYON *Joan Crawford, Dana Andrews, Henry Fonda,* THE SNAKE PIT *Olivia de Havilland, Mark Stevens,* and FOREVER AMBER *Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene, George Sanders—Technicolor,* CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE *Tyrone Power, Jean Peters, Cesar Romero—Technicolor* and GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT *Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire, John Garfield.*

EVERY EXHIBITOR *looks* TO 20th CENTURY-FOX

39 Films Are In Production, Drop of 6

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14. — With 11 pictures sent to the cutting rooms and only five new ones getting started, the production tally dropped lower than it has in a number of weeks, with the count being 39 films in the making, as against 45 shooting the previous week.

The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "A Little Spanish Town," with Gene Autry, Elaine Marion, Stephen Dunne. "Blondie's Anniversary," with Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Adele Jergens.

Shooting: "The Mating of Millie," "The Sign of the Ram," "The Black Arrow," "Tex Granger."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "T-Man," "Northwest Stampede."

Goldwyn

Shooting: "That's Life."

M-G-M

Finished: "Killer McCoy," "The Kissing Bandit."

Shooting: "Virtuous," "On an Island With You," "The High Wall."

Monogram

Finished: "The Dusty Trail."

Shooting: "Rocky."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Paleface," "Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "My Own True Love."

PRC

Finished: "Headin' for Heaven," "The El Lobo Mystery."

Republic

Shooting: "The Red Pony," "The Gay Ranchero."

RKO Radio

Started: "Good Sam," with Gary Cooper, Ann Sheridan, Edmund Lowe, Frank McHugh. "Stations West," with Dick Powell, Jane Greer, Agnes Moorehead, Burl Ives, Guinn Williams, Gordon Oliver. "Under Arizona Skies," with Tim Holt, Ann Leslie, Richard Martin, Carol Foreman.

Finished: "The Wild Horse Mesa."

Shooting: "The Miracle of the Bells," "I Remember Mama," "Your Red Wagon," "Roughshod."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

Screen Guild

Shooting: "The Prairie."

20th-Fox

Finished: "Nightmare Alley."

Shooting: "The Snake Pit." "Daisy Kenyon," "Gentleman's Agreement," "Green Grass of Wyoming."

United Artists

Finished: "Sleep My Love" and untitled Hopalong Cassidy.

Shooting: "The Time of Your Life" (Cagney).

Universal-International

Shooting: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "The Senator Was Indiscreet," "Tap Roots," "Mortal Coils," "A Double Life."

Warner

Finished: "Romance in High C" (Curtiz), "Silver River."

Shooting: "Mary Hagen," "Ever the Beginning."

Select Groth for RKO Theatres Post

Emil Groth has been named RKO Theatres division manager for the state of Ohio, effective Sept. 4, in a new divisional set-up, Sol Schwartz, vice-president and general manager, disclosed yesterday. Joseph Alexander, manager of the Albee, Cincinnati, will be Groth's assistant. The change follows the announcement of the retirement of Arthur Frudenfeld, present division manager, effective Sept. 1.

Schwartz also announced the appointment of William Clark, present assistant division manager in Cincinnati, to the post of division manager for Iowa and Minnesota, replacing the late John Redmond. Robert Whelan of the Orpheum, Minneapolis, will be his assistant. Clark will assume his post on Aug. 22, with headquarters in Minneapolis.

Ben Domingo, city manager of Boston, was named new division manager for Boston, Providence and Lowell, Mass., effective Sept. 4.

Frudenfeld Heads Variety Committee

CINCINNATI, Aug. 14. — The local Variety Club has named Arthur Frudenfeld, RKO division manager, as chairman of the committee on arrangements for the local premiere of "Variety Girl," in connection with a stage show at the RKO Shubert on Aug. 26. Frudenfeld is scheduled to retire from the industry on Sept. 1.

Assisting Frudenfeld will be Irving Sochin, chief barker; E. V. Dinerman, Wm. McCloskey, John P. Smith, Harvey Carey, Ben Cohen, Jos. Carr, Alan S. Moritz, James Leonard, Noah Schecter, Wm. Bien, Mike Greenberg, Ralph Kinsler and Al. Wilson. Proceeds will go toward support of foundlings.

McCarthy and Mills Named to MPA Posts

The appointments of John G. McCarthy as associate manager of the international division of the Motion Picture Association, and of Taylor Mills as head of the selectivity department of the division, were disclosed yesterday by Eric Johnston, MPA president. Gerald Mayer is managing director of the division.

McCarthy had been a member of the staff of the department. Mills, who succeeded Stanton Griffis as chief of the motion picture department of the Office of War Information, was formerly administrative analyst and budget examiner in the Bureau of the Budget in the Executive Office of the President.

Industry Leaders to Aid 'Night of Stars'

Industry leaders will have served on the producing committee of the forthcoming 14th annual "Night of Stars" to be held at Madison Square Garden on Monday evening, Nov. 17, according to an announcement by Robert M. Weitman, chairman.

Honorary chairmen include: Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon and Albert Warner. Co-chairmen are: Marvin H. Schenck, Louis K. Sidney, Ed Sullivan and Arthur Knorr.

The proceeds of "Night of Stars" will go to the United Jewish Appeal.

Expect P.R.C.-E-L Details Next Week

Hollywood, Aug. 14. — By early next week, details of the impending absorption of Producers Releasing Corp. by Eagle-Lion will be ironed out, according to E-L and PRC executives. Harry H. Thomas, PRC president, said he is in constant discussion on various proposals, but no decision has yet been reached.

Plan Construction Of Seven Drive-ins

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 14.—Four drive-in theatres, with 3,750-car total capacity, have been placed in the planning and construction stages by the Mid-west Drive-In Theatres Corp.

Architectural and construction contracts for two 1,000-car drive-ins have been awarded to E. W. Clement, of Cleveland, Ohio, by the Fred Wehrenberg circuit, with cost of the first of the two projects estimated at more than $200,000. Wehrenberg has also announced construction of a 1,200-seat theatre, with cost estimated at more than $250,000.

Construction has begun on the 750-car drive-in which is being installed by Flexer Drive-In Theatres, Inc., of Memphis, Tenn. Still in the planning stage is the H. J. Halloway drive-in, with a 1,000-car capacity.

Three New Ohio Drive-ins

CLEVELAND, Aug. 14.—Three new drive-ins are set for August openings in this area. Horace Shock, with two outdoor theatres near Lima, O., will open another one at Marion, O., tomorrow. Milton Rooney's Sky High Drive-In at Youngstown has a Aug. 25 date opening and Larry Black, owner of the dismantled Star Theatre, East Liverpool, is completing arrangements to open a new drive-in in East Liverpool.

Theatres Collected $1,500,000 for Polio

Theatre collections for the 1947 March of Dimes brought in $1,500,000, Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, reported yesterday. The drive raised a total of $17,987,800.66.

O'Connor added that the amount raised in the entire 1947 March of Dimes was approximately $2,000,000 more than the previous all-time high of $15,982,150.66 raised in 1946.

OHE Has Approved 17 Theatre Projects

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The Office of the Housing Expediter has announced that it approved 17 applications for theatre construction and repair during the week ending Aug. 8.

Value of the approved applications was $653,000. Forty-four projects, which would have cost $2,155,000, were denied during the week.

"Corpse" Opens Monday

Columbia's "The Corpse Came C.O.D." with George Brent and Joan Blondell, will have its New York premiere at the Rialto Monday.

Conclude Schine Circuit Meeting

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Aug. 14.—The annual meeting of the Schine circuit zone managers and home office men was concluded here today with the formulation of the fall season campaign.

Regional follow-up meetings, with house managers present, are scheduled later for five cities.

Gus Lampe, former zone manager, was named to assume charge of ci[illegible]cuit operation under L. W. Schi[illegible] Bill Kraemer, one-time head booker, was assigned as zone manager of Eastern New York, Maryland, Delaware, plus assisting Lampe; Harry Unterfort, Syracuse city manager, was assigned to central New York as zone manager; Wilbur Eckard, Ohio group manager, to Ohio as zone manager; George Cameron as manager Norwalk, to Norwalk, and Bud Sommers, Madison, to Richmond, Kentucky, as group manager.

Myer Schine, president, was host yesterday afternoon at a golf tournament and at a dinner last night at Pinebrook Country Club.

SAG Board Vote Mon. On IMPPA Revision

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—The Screen Actors Guild executive board will vote on Monday on the revised version of the contract proposed by the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association after 10 days of continued negotiations between guild and producer representatives. SAG rejected the first IMPPA plan, to set up a "separate category" governing employed on films budgeted under $100,000, because of IMPAA's request for a longer work week and work day. It is believed the new proposals pertain principally to wage minimums.

Goodwin, Barrist End Partnership

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 14.—After 17 years of operation of Quality Premium Distributors, Charles Goodwin and Dave Barrist have dissolved their partnership, with Goodwin taking over the operation. Barrist and Goodwin have been partners for 31 years.

Barrist plans to take a long rest before resuming activities in other fields.

The partnership's first venture was in leasing, managing and booking theatres. Later, they entered publishing and the independent exchange business.

Lay-Off of 300 at 20th Is 'Seasonal'

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—About 300 of 20th Century-Fox's production personnel, including grips, property men, costumers and office workers have been laid off by the company as a result of seasonal inactivity. The lay-off, it was said, is due to the fact that the studio has only one picture shooting and will not start another for six weeks, at which time most of those laid off will be recalled.

Goldberg in Republic Post

Eber A. Goldberg has been appointed general manager of Republic Pictures do Brasil, Inc. He replaces Fritz Berg, who has assumed a similar position there with Warner Brothers.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Record heat prevailed throughout the week. "Cry Wolf" easily took the boxoffice laurels. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 13:

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $18,200)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $19,000. Average: $15,500)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,900).

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,100)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,300)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $22,600).

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $26,600).

DEAR RUTH (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60-80-$1.00). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,100)

GOLDEN BOY (Col. Reissue) and GOOD GIRLS GO TO PARIS (Col. Reissue) — BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average; $7,100)

GOLDEN BOY (Col. Reissued) and GOOD GIRLS GO TO PARIS (Col. Reissue) — EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,800)

GOLDEN BOY (Col. Reissue) and GOOD GIRLS GO TO PARIS (Col. Reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,800)

GOLDEN BOY (Col. Reissue) and GOOD GIRLS GO TO PARIS (Col. Reissue)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $11,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,200)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY (20th - Fox - Wurtzel) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $28,600)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and THE CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox-Wurtzel) — UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $13,200)

THE PATIENT VANISHES (Film Classics) — MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. Average: $4,700)

THE PATIENT VANISHES (Film Classics)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $14,200.)

THE PATIENT VANISHES (Film Classics)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,400)

THE PATIENT VANISHES (Film Classics)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,900)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,600)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,800)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME! (RKO RADIO) and SON OF RUSTY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,800)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME! (RKO Radio) and SON OF RUSTY (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $20,800)

CHICAGO

A good week-end helped put Loop theatre business back on its feet. Outstanding among downtown films are "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," "Dear Ruth," "Carnival In Costa Rica," "The Unfaithful," and "Brute Force." Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 11:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $16,000)

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA (20th-Fox) —ORIENTAL (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Helen Forrest and Art Lund. Gross: $46,500. (Average: $40,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 5th week. On stage: Jo Stafford and Victor Borge. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $59,000)

HIGH BARBAREE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $25,500)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M) — STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $30,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) — GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio) — WOODS (1,200) (95c) Gross: $44,000. (Average: $17,500)

SLAVE GIRL (Univ.) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $20,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.) — APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $12,000)

'Green' Held Over

E-L's "Green for Danger" has been held over for an indefinite run at the Winter Garden here.

'Variety Girl' in 300 Major Key Runs

Three hundred major key runs of "Variety Girl," Paramount's all-star musical dedicated to the Variety Clubs International, have been booked to date, according to Charles M. Reagan, the company's vice-president in charge of distribution.

The Paramount sales head disclosed that indications are that the film, which will go into general release on Aug. 29 would be booked by virtually all Paramount's important accounts as the Labor Day holiday attraction.

"Variety Girl" will have special benefit premieres in 24 key cities during the week preceding Labor Day under the sponsorship of local Variety Clubs, with proceeds going to the charity fund of each tent.

100 Texas Bookings For 'The Long Night'

DALLAS, Aug. 14.—Over 100 bookings of RKO Radio's "The Long Night" have been set in Texas by Sol Sachs, Dallas branch manager. Picture will open simultaneously in Dallas and Oklahoma City on Sept. 11. Thus far, Interstate has signed the picture for a number of its houses; Jefferson Amusement has booked it for all 26 of its first-runs, and Robb Rowley has signed for 20 houses.

Bookings are also set for New Mexico and Oklahoma theatres. Radio and press promotions are scheduled for all areas mentioned. Edward Terhune, Dallas field man; Leo Young in Oklahoma City and Jack Quirk in New Orleans, will cover the entire territory under the supervision of Robert Hickey.

Town Stores Closed For 'Father' Premiere

SKOWHEGAN, Me., Aug. 14.—All places of business here were closed today for the world premiere of Warner's "Life With Father" at the Lakewood Theatre.

After a special cavalcade to the Skowhegan State Fair, in progress this week, Governor Horace A. Hildreth and the Maine Development Commission were hosts at a lobster bake to Warners' official guests for the premiere.

Special Release Date on 'Father'

"Life With Father" has been set by Warner Brothers for release Sept. 13 for special engagements only. The picture will have pre-release openings at the Warner Theatre here and the Warner in Atlantic City, both starting today, and in numerous other cities cities within the next few weeks.

Sorrell Turn Mon. Before House Unit

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 14.—Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, will present that organization's version of the studio jurisdictional strikes to the House Labor Subcommittee here on Monday. Sorrell appeared briefly today to identify telegrams being read into the record by Pat Casey, veteran labor negotiator, who continued on the stand for the third day.

Leon Goldberg, RKO labor relations executive, supplemented Casey's testimony today.

Paramount
Lifts the Latch
on its
Big-News
Star Team
Ladd and
Lamour
in
"Wild
Harvest"

FCC Plans Change In Video Channels

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The Federal Communications Commission today issued a proposed ruling which would allocate 12 channels for television broadcasting only, and remove one previously set for television.

Under the present set-up the 13 channels were shared by television broadcasting and fixed and mobile non-Governmental services, such as police and fire departments. Under the new ruling non-Governmental services would be given exclusive use of channel No. 1, and television broadcasting be given exclusive use of the remaining 12 channels.

Objections to the proposed ruling must be filed with the commission on or before Sept. 15.

RMA Group Meets Tues.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The Radio Manufacturers Association export committee will consider problems raised by recent foreign barriers against U. S. radio imports at a meeting on Tuesday at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago. Appointment of James E. Burke, export manager of Stewart-Warner Corp., Chicago, as chairman of the committee was announced by RMA President Max F. Balcom. He succeeds A. D. Keller, of the Federal Telephone and Radio Corp.,, New York, who resigned the RMA post recently.

'Adventure Is.' Aug. 27

The world premiere of Paramount's "Adventure Island," will be held at the State Theatre, San Francisco, on Aug. 27.

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"Life With Father"

(*Continued from page* 1)

film form and the lustre of Technicolor. Into the filming of a play so successful as to make it a challenge to Hollywood, the Brothers Warner poured a fortune proportionate to the potentialities of the project, and the result clearly warrants their confidence.

Powell, portraying the alternately stern and kind but always family-minded father of four boys, establishes a new high in a long career that has included many highs. Miss Dunne, as his devoted and sometimes critical but always understanding wife, does a magnificent job of restraining herself, without sacrifice of values, in a role that could have run away with the picture. Miss Taylor, as a demure but impressionable niece, and Jimmy Lydon, as the boy with whom she shares a puppy-love romance, are counterparts of youngsters familiar to every parent. Edmund Gwenn, as the vicar, Zasu Pitts, as the perennial visitor, Emma Dunn, Moroni Olsen, Elizabeth Risdon, Derek Scott, Johnny Calkins, Martin Miller, Heather Wilde and numerous others fit the story as though they had lived it.

In sum, if the broad tapestry of normal family living which is the picture's essential factor must be brought down to a single story thread, the narrative may be said to deal primarily with the efforts of a staunch Episcopalian wife to persuade her likewise but less staunchly Episcopalian husband to be baptized, because of somehow having missed that ceremony when a baby. He considers baptism an unimportant formality. She considers it an essential. As handled, the matter never takes on the stature of a religious issue, and the husband is on his way to church to be baptized as the picture ends.

Although there have been some family stories which have not made tremendous history on the screen, there have been few that have failed, and few that have not made friends and fans for the motion picture. This one, topping all others, figures to do outstanding business on its own behalf and do the industry a world of good in addition.

Running time, 118 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Stork Bites Man"

(*Comet-United Artists*)

THE FARCICAL tribulations of an expectant father result in a merry cinema romp in the Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn production, "Stork Bites Man." A slight spicing of fantasy is added to the goings-on by an imaginary off-screen stork that turns up occasionally with a few words of advice. It is easy-to-take, featherweight entertainment for the customers.

The well-remembered Jackie Cooper is the ex-G.I. who gets all a-dither at the news of his forthcoming parenthood. He is further harried, however, by the fact that Kimberly Towers, the apartment house in which he lives as well as manages, has a ban on babies. After a whirligig of events in which Cooper tries to conceal his impending fatherhood, he is ousted. At this juncture the omniscient, slick-talking stork prods Cooper into organizing a boycott against the house. The strategy is eventually successful with Cooper and family moving back, and a raise in the offing, too.

A Comet Production, Cyril Endfield directed and did the screenplay which also has a topical quality. Gene Roberts plays the wife in conventional style. Others making satisfactory contributions are Emory Parnell as the dyspeptic Kimberly; Gus Schilling, a baby-supplies salesman, and Sarah Selby as a mother-in-law.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience clasification. For August release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Ascap Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

up its exclusive contracts in this country for foreign repertoires before the Department's suit could be dropped.

Settlement Negotiations Underway, Frohlich Says

Louis Frohlich, litigation counsel for the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, confirmed here yesterday that he has been negotiating terms of settlement of the Department of Justice suit, which is based on ASCAP's alleged participation in an international cartel. He said "some adjustments might be made" and a settlement is not unlikely.

'Stranger' in Top Gross

"Welcome Stranger" smashed every record at the New York Paramount Theatre this year in the first week, according to the home office. The gross was seven per cent larger than for the first week of "Going My Way," which played at higher prices. Admissions sold the first week of "Welcome Stranger" totaled 160,000 as against 155,000 for "Going My Way."

RKO Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

share on the 3,818,422 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of such quarter.

Consolidated net profit for the first half of 1947 was $5,107,347 (including profit on the sale of capital assets), after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately $1.30 per share on the 3,924,913 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of the first half, as compared with consolidated net profit for the first half of 1946 of $6,881,352, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately $1.80 per share on the 3,818,422 shares of common stock outstanding at June 30, 1946.

UA Manager Changes

Nat Nathanson, present United Artists branch manager in San Francisco, will become branch manager in Chicago, effective Aug. 25, it was announced yesterday by J. J. Unger, UA general sales manager. Clarence Olson, Denver branch manager, succeeds Nathanson in San Francisco, while Kenneth MacKaig, salesman in the Los Angeles branch, takes Olson's post in Denver.

New Ad Test Method Announced by Gallup

"The Impact Method," a new technique for pre-testing the effectiveness of printed ads, was announced yesterday by Dr. George Gallup, head of Audience Research, Inc., at a trade press luncheon here at the Hotel Biltmore.

The method, in outline, consists of placing the ad to be tested in a special magazine, "Impact," which simulates an actual publication. Interviews [illegible]re then held with cross-section rea[illegible], whereby the strength or weakness of the ad can be ascertained. Following this diagnosis, corrective measures can be made assuring the ad its fullest effectiveness among potential buyers. The technique can be used for film as well as general ads.

1-Year Period Sought For 'Express' Rate

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—A recommendation that the Railway Express Agency's new rate structure become effective for a one-year period has been made by C. G. Jensen, director of the Interstate Commerce Commission's bureau of traffic. The recommendation must still be approved by the full commission.

Jensen would require Railway Express to continue its traffic studies and report on them within six months. He said the new rate structure falls nearly $10,000,000 short of the amount of revenue Railway Express estimated was needed to offset higher railroad costs.

150 Advance Dates Set

"Deep Valley," set by Warner Brothers for general release on Sept. 1, is now dated for 150 pre-release openings. It had a day-and-date world premiere on Wednesday at the Hippodrome, Cleveland; Warner, Worcester; Roger Sherman, New Haven; Warner and Merritt, Bridgeport, and several other houses in the Eastern territory, to be followed by a score of openings today in the Central region. The Broadway opening at the Strand is set for Aug. 22 with about 80 additional openings set over that weekend.

DeVry Export Up

CHICAGO, Aug. 14. — An unprecedented demand throughout the world for American motion picture equipment has boosted the DeVry Corporation's export business from approximately $75,000 annually before the war to about $500,000, Norman D. Olsen, DeVry export sales manager, said here, following his recent world trip.

Seek Charge Dismissal

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—Counsel for the Conference of Studio Unions has filed a petition with the District Court of Appeals for a writ of prohibition asking order to the Superior Court to show cause why indictments against CSU president Herbert Sorrell and eight others should not be dismissed.

Zworykin to Europe

Dr. V. K. Zworykin, vice-president of RCA Laboratories at Princeton, N. J., will leave on the *Queen Elizabeth* tomorrow to attend engineering conferences in Belgium, France and Italy. He is scheduled to deliver three papers during his trip.

Box to Skyrocket His Film Turnout

J. Arthur Rank's Gainsborough production unit, headed by Sydney Box, has completed its reorganization for a stepped-up production program and is now geared to turn out 12 to 14 pictures a year, whereas previously the unit's yearly capacity allowed only about four films. This was disclosed here yesterday by Box upon his arrival from England on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* in company with Earl St. John, chief production advisor to the Rank organization; Mrs. Box and Mrs. St. John.

Box said Gainsborough will attain its increased turn-out by virtue of having increased its producer manpower. That manpower, he said, was recruited by him from the ranks of the young producers who, during the war, turned out some 400 pictures for the British Government. Each individual producer, he said, will be responsible for two or more pictures a year.

The entire Rank organization, St. John said, now turns out about 35 pictures a year, and expects to increase its rate by 10 in six months. Rank, he pointed out, has always aimed at 50 pictures per year, but has been falling short of that goal because of the British equipment shortage.

Box's principal business in Hollywood, for where the group will leave next week, will be to "talk over a couple of picture-making deals with James Mason." While on the Coast, St. John will confer with Universal production executive William Goetz relative to the Rank-Universal stars-and-properties exchange plans. Goetz will accompany Box and St. John back to Britain on Sept. 18.

St. John said he received a cable from Rank recently in which the British film leader asked him to "tell our American friends not to get panicky" over the British tax situation "and to assure them that everything will turn out all right."

French Production Is 'Defunct': St. John

Production in France "has folded—is defunct." This statement came yesterday from Earl St. John, chief production adviser to the J. Arthur Rank Organization, who arrived here yesterday from England on the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth*. Prior to leaving for the U. S. St. John made a tour of France.

It has cost the French 40,000,000 francs a year to make pictures, and 40,000,000 francs is all French pictures have been able to earn annually in the world market, St. John explained. As a result, he said, French production has come to a standstill, and now French producers place their only hope for survival in their aim to strike up an affinity with American producers. Pictures produced jointly by American and French film-makers in France specifically for the American market will save the French industry. That is the French belief, St. John said.

Fire Damages Booth

PORTSMOUTH, O., Aug. 14. — A spark igniting film in the projection booth of the Westland Theatre caused damage to the projection equipment estimated at $1,500, it is reported by C. A. Metro, owner, who also operates the Eastland here.

Delay in Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

with the Government by the Motion Picture Association.

One State Department official called the entire question of whether the British tax violated any of our three financial agreements with the U. K. "a lawyer's delight." He said he had heard estimates that it would be a minimum of six weeks before all the required officials could agree on any answer to the question.

"Anyhow," he stated, "our main idea is to encourage the industry to work out a compromise with the British government with as little as possible action on our part." Developments arising out of the coming loan talks might make the whole violation issue academic, this official pointed out.

Meanwhile, MPA officials awaited the much-reported meeting offer from the British industry. As yet, they have had only press reports that the British asked them to meet and work out a solution to the Dalton tax.

The State Department said it had received a telegram from Sen Downey, California Democrat, urging the Government to ask the British to rescind the 75 per cent tax and work out a compromise with the U. S. film industry. Downey urged Secretary Marshall to "make strong representations to Great Britain on this matter," and called the tax "a crippling blow at the efforts which our country has been making to build strong, healthy, sound international trade and commerce."

Hollywood Congressman Also Protests British Levy

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14.—Congressman Poulson of the 13th California district (Hollywood), has telegraphed Secretary of State Marshall urging him "to make strong representations" to the British in protesting the film levy. Declaring that the tax is confiscatory, in violation of United Nations policies and a crippling blow to free trade, Poulson emphasized the measure would reduce American revenue from Britain to four cents per boxoffice dollar.

Economy Cut

(*Continued from page* 1)

ters when they come up for attention, such as having associates absorb the work of resigning personnel unless replacements are of urgent necessity.

National sales conventions were cited as a likely casualty of the budget cuts, the dropping of them being considered in favor of the less expensive series of local meetings.

Although company officials declined to be specific as to the exact nature of their plans, it was made clear that all matters requiring outlays of funds will be given close scrutiny with the thought in mind to cut the normal expenditure.

SETOA Endorses

(*Continued from page* 1)

voted here today at the final session of the convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners of America.

The SETOA also passed a resolution pledging full support to the Motion Picture Foundation.

All SETOA officers, headed by Mack Jackson, president, were re-elected.

Tax in Loan Talks, Snyder Indicates

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, commenting on the arrival of a British delegation here Saturday, to begin talks on Monday on relaxing the British Loan agreement, said that whether or not the British film tax is brought up depends on the developments after the conference starts.

He admitted, however, that "the question has been raised as to whether or not that action might be in violation of the Loan agreement, and of course that might be appropriately discussed."

Even if the matter does not come up directly, it will be involved indirectly. Any action relaxing the Loan agreement will affect the British decision in keeping the tax or switching to some alternative.

Both Snyder and acting Secretary of State Lovett told reporters that they had received the industry's protests against the British action, and that they were being studied.

Snyder will go to London early next month, it was revealed, and confer with Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton on just what financial aid the U. S. can offer Britain.

Meanwhile, it was announced that another $150,000,000 had been withdrawn on the $3,750,000,000 U. S. loan, leaving Britain only $850,000,000. Officials here estimate the loan will be exhausted by Oct. 1. The British have now withdrawn $850,000,000 since July 1, 1947, start of the current fiscal year.

Independents

(*Continued from page* 1)

Yates, Republic president, said that while the company has made no long-range policy decisions on the subject pending the outcome of official and government conferences which may have a bearing on the present situation, Republic is making no shipments to Britain in the meantime.

At Monogram-Allied Artists it was stated that Steve Broidy, now in London, refused to pay the duty on four films he brought with him to England and returned them to the United States. No further shipments are expected to be made.

John Jones, Screen Guild president, said his company would ship no films to Britain pending final developments in the situation. He is counting on British exhibitor pressure on the government to bring results.

Officials of Eagle-Lion said the company is withholding shipments and will follow the policy of the major companies. Harry Thomas, PRC president, said the same policy applies to the latter company.

PCCITO Rejects Idea Of Increased Rentals

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 14. — Robert Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, commenting on a recent statement by W. A. Scully, Universal-International vice-president in charge of sales, to the effect that exhibitors should back up producers in attempts to meet loss of British revenue, said:

"We do not believe distributors should impose on the exhibitors of the United States any increase in film rentals due to any loss of any foreign revenues."

May Set Australia's Film Imports Today

Consideration of the American film import situation in Australia may come up for consideration today when the Australian cabinet meets to take up the nation's dollar position in relation to imports and exports generally. The American film industry has its "fingers crossed" in light of what has happened in Britain.

However, just in case the films aspect was on the cabinet's guarded agenda, a number of the American distributors' managers in Australia, acting on their own volition and without instructions from home offices, have called on Prime Minister Joseph B. Chifley to urge that Australia should not impose drastic cuts in imports of Hollywood films.

'Best Years' to Open Soon in Berlin

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The War Department has announced that "Best Years of Our Lives" has reached Berlin and will open there shortly.

"The Sky's the Limit" and "You Belong to Me" have been sent to Tokyo, the department said, and would be exhibited in the near future.

Republic Mid-East Deal

Republic Pictures International Corp. has signed a contract with Abul Fath, Mansour and Co., for the distribution of its pictures in the Middle East. The territory covers Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Sudan, Transjordania, Cyprus, Ethiopia and Eretria, City of Aden.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC Eagle-Lion	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
July 13	GUNFIGHTERS (Color) Randolph Scott O—87 min. (Rev. 6/13/47)	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (726) (Rev. 5/20/47)	KILROY WAS HERE Jackie Cooper Jackie Coogan D—68 min. (Rev. 6/30/47)	DEAR RUTH Joan Caulfield William Holden C—95 min. (4616) (Rev. 5/28/47)			(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(July Releases) THUNDER IN THE VALLEY (Color) Lon McCallister Peggy Ann Garner Edmund Gwenn D—103 min. (720) (Rev. 6/5/47)	(Hopalong Cassidy) HOPPY'S HOLIDAY William Boyd O—60 min. (Rev. 5/5/47)	(July Releases)	
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (727) (Rev. 6/12/47)	THUNDER-BOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (4624) (2/27/47)	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754) (Rev. 8/1/47)	SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) (Rev. 7/31/47) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)	(Enterprise) THE OTHER LOVE Barbara Stanwyck David Niven D—96 min. (Rev. 3/28/47)	THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (618) (Rev. 6/2/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (723) (Rev. 11/3/38)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		(Eagle-Lion) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min. (Rev. 8/4/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)		GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (619) (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.		NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)			WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		(Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.	(August Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	(Eagle-Lion) RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(August Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)		(August Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	(Eagle-Lion) GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min.	(Block 1:47-48)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D		
Aug. 24				VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	RAILROADED John Ireland D	ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL Monte Hale O—64 min.	SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.	SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)	(Sept. Releases)	(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)				THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D			DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D	SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)					UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)		(Sept. Releases)	
Sept. 14		THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)			(Eagle-Lion) OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 10/29/41)		SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)		WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)			CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (Rev.10/20/41)		SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.

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E-L Acquires All PRC Facilities

Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., has acquired all of the exchanges and distribution facilities of PRC Exchange Corp., it was disclosed at the weekend by Robert W. Purcell, chairman of the board of Pathe Industries, Inc. Included are the 31 exchanges formerly operated by PRC in all the film centers of the country as well as the home office facilities of PRC here.

Attributing the change to the rapid expansion of E-L, Purcell said that E-L will hereafter distribute its own pictures and those of J. Arthur Rank through the wholly-owned and controlled distribution organization. Previously, the E-L program was distributed through the PRC exchanges under the supervision of separate E-L sales and exploitation personnel.

Purcell also disclosed that Harry Thomas is resigning as president of PRC in order to produce a minimum of ten program films under the name of Mutual Films, to be released by E-L. Purcell praised Thomas for his work.

This completes the physical merger, with PRC remaining as an active producing subsidiary concentrating on exploitation pictures for release by

(*Continued on page 7*)

$6 Million Growth Planned by Lippert

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—Expansion of the Robert Lippert circuit of 36 theatres in Northern California and Oregon to 58, and possibly to 100 ultimately, is in the offing, with Julian Levye, vice-president of Reynolds Pen Co., reportedly having made $6,000,000 available to Lippert for the undertaking. Negotiations are now in progress. Of principal interest, it is understood, is the Naify brothers interest in Golden State Circuit.

New Time Extension For Nomikos Circuit

Chicago, Aug. 17.—Another time extension has been granted to the Van A. Nomikos theatre circuit in answering percentage charges filed by Paramount, according to Seymour Simon, defense attorney. The date set for the hearing is now Aug. 22. However, negotiations are in progress, and it is believed a settlement may be reached out of court.

Ascap Ignores ITOA Rates Data Request

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers to date has ignored a formal request for information regarding its plans to raise license fees for theatres put to it by attorneys for a group of New York theatres.

The latter, mostly members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, are the plaintiffs in an anti-trust action pending against Ascap in New York Federal Court.

Meanwhile, pre-trial examinations in the case are expected to be resumed at the end of this month. It is held likely that plaintiffs' attorneys will seek to learn of Ascap's intentions of increasing music performing right fees when depositions are taken from Ascap officers, including Deems Taylor, president.

Fabian to Provide Pensions, Bonuses

A thorough-going study of all operations of Fabian Theatres with the view of putting into effect, probably by Jan. 1, 1948, a program of pensions and bonuses for employes has been launched by the circuit, Sam Rosen, vice-president, disclosed here on Friday.

Rosen said that an outside agency familiar with theatre operations has been commissioned to consider all economic factors in the course of the last 10 years, including the number of employes and salaries, general business conditions and the circuit's earnings.

The circuit operates 60 theatres

(*Continued on page 7*)

Nelson: Industry Is UK's 'Guinea Pig'

Hollywood, Aug. 17.—Telegram sent to the State Department over the weekend by Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers in behalf of the SIMPP committee which has been studying the British tax situation, reads, in part: "The recent *ad valorem* tax on American films imported into England has singled out the motion picture industry from among all other American industries as the guinea pig for improving England's bargaining position with the United States in the forthcoming financial discussion between them and the U. S." Nelson's wire requests a conference with the State Department on the subject at a "mutually convenient" time.

SRO Consolidates U. S. Sales Setup

As a result of recent conferences in Hollywood between producer David O. Selznick, Neil Agnew, Selznick Releasing Organization president, and Milton S. Kusell, vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales, the domestic sales set-up of SRO, heretofore divided into seven districts, will be consolidated into four sales divisions, effective immediately.

J. E. Fontaine, Washington district manager, will manage the Eastern di-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Five Companies Report Increases in Backlogs

Hollywood, Aug. 17.—A survey of the number of pictures finished and awaiting release at this time, compared to those finished and awaiting release at the corresponding period in 1946, shows:

M-G-M has 21 finished compared with 12 last year; UA has 23 compared to 18 last year, while Columbia has 26 this year, against 24 in 1946.

Other company figures follow: Monogram, 12 this year, 10 last year; RKO Radio, 14 this year, 10 last year; Republic, 19 this year, 25 last year; Universal, nine this year, ten last year; Warner Brothers, 13 this year, 18 last year.

Tax Collections in D.C. Drop Sharply

Washington, Aug. 17.—Admission tax collections in the District of Columbia showed a sharp drop during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1947, according to figures issued today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue. Receipts during the last fiscal year totaled $3,057,015, compared with $3,374,331 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946. The figure includes taxes paid by cabarets, legitimate theatres, sports parks and other amusement places as well as film theatres.

Industry Hope For U.K. Tax Change Is U.S.

Skepticism Over BFPA Plan Is Voiced Here

Reliance of the industry upon the U. S. State and Treasury Departments to resolve the situation created by Britain's imposition of a 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty on American films and the resultant decision by the industry to discontinue film shipments to Britain was increasingly apparent here on Friday.

Substantiating this view was a noncommittal statement issued on Friday by the Motion Picture Association indicating that there would be no early action on the British Film Producers Association proposal for a joint meeting with industry leaders here on the tax.

"Eric Johnston, MPA president, doubtless will wish to canvass his membership as to their reaction" to the BFPA proposal, the MPA statement said. "Thereafter, a meeting of MPA directors may be required. Members of the board are scattered

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hits British Tax as Blow to 'Free World'

The *ad valorem* tax recently imposed by Great Britain upon the importation of American films "has raised an issue even more important than the future of Britain's economy or the future of the American motion picture industry," Quincy Howe, president of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, said at the weekend. "It has raised the whole

(*Continued on page 7*)

Broidy Quits Britain As Result of Tax

Newcastle, England, Aug. 17.—Cutting short his stay in England because of the present tax situation, Steve Broidy, president of Allied Artists and Monogram, has left Newcastle for Bergen, Norway, en route to Oslo. A six-week tour of European capitals will follow.

Broidy is accompanied by Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International Corp.

Personal Mention

Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, has returned to his desk here after a business trip to Atlanta and Chicago.

•

Lewis Blumberg, assistant general sales manager of Prestige Pictures, will be discharged from the New York Hospital today. He suffered torn leg ligaments in a recent sailboat accident.

•

H. W. Kramer, vice-president of Sales Builders, Inc., of Los Angeles, subsidiary of Max Factor and Co., and his wife and daughter, have sailed on the *SS Alcoa Clipper* for the Caribbean Islands and Venezuela.

•

Earl Lawson, head of the Canadian Odeon Circut, sailed on the *Queen Elizabeth* Saturday for London where he will confer with J. Arthur Rank and John Davis.

•

Ralph Wheelright, assistant publicity director at the M-G-M studio, and Frank Witbeck, studio director of advertising, will be here from Culver City on Wednesday.

•

R. M. Savini, president of Astor Pictures, will leave here Wednesday for a visit to his Western franchise distributors and is due in Hollywood on Aug. 27.

•

Russell Holman, Paramount's Eastern production head, has left for conferences in Hollywood where he will remain a week.

•

Lynn Farnol, national director of advertising-publicity for Samuel Golden Prod., is back in town after a trip to the Coast.

•

Jack Warner, son of the Warner vice-president, is in Albany, N. Y., to observe theatre operations as part of his film training.

•

Samuel N. Wheeler, Film Classics sales head, is en route to California from New York, stopping off at key cities on the way.

•

James V. O'Gara, Republic Eastern division manager, is on a two-week tour of Midwestern branches.

•

Nat Lax, United Artists advertising production manager, celebrated a birthday over the weekend.

•

A. Montague, Columbia sales chief, has purchased an estate in Stamford, Conn.

•

Harry Warner and Mrs. Warner are in Saratoga, N. Y., for the month of August.

•

Alfred Santell, former Republic producer-director, is in town from the Coast.

•

George Margolin, president of Continental Motion Pictures Corp., has returned here from Rome.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

HOME office executives revealed last week that most, if not all, of the major companies will undertake extensive programs to effect economies in overhead and operations as their major move in meeting and offsetting the impending loss of revenue from the British market.

Naturally, they were reluctant to divulge details and, hence, little is known of what is planned specifically.

Executive comments in reply to questions on the point were limited to adjectives for the most part. "Broad," "sweeping," "general," "extensive," were some of those used to describe the nature of the planned economy moves. Those and nothing more.

One executive who, by comparison with others, was positively garrulous, permitted himself to say that "Staffs and expenditures will be cut all along the line to an extent just short of impairment of efficiency."

That provides some idea of what is in the wind but with the essential details still lacking, it remains difficult if not impossible to appraise the economy programs decided upon.

•

The trade has heard of sweeping economy programs before.

In actuality, most of them consisted of the discharge of several hundreds of clerks, stenographers and subalterns; reduction of indiscriminate use of long distance telephone and the arbitrary shearing of departmental budgets.

With respect to the latter, little if any consideration was given to values.

It was never so much a matter of, "What return can be anticipated from this or that expenditure?"

It was almost always simply an order: "Cut."

It is to be hoped that more thought and planning, more basic intelligence, will go into the present economy programs than was apparent in earlier ones.

Indiscriminate cutting of both employment and expenditures not only is no solution for the present situation in which the industry finds itself but such action will be proof positive that the problem itself is not clearly perceived by those who would contend with it.

With or without the British market there is no excuse for waste and inefficiency, for gross extravagances and for bad judgment in responsible places.

Those are the ills which constitute the present problem.

The loss of British revenue did not create them. It merely brings them into sharper focus and greater disrepute.

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If the present economy programs contemplate correction of the most serious of those body ailments of the industry, and there is no way of telling at this time whether or not they do, they will be all to the good, even though they are brought to being tardily.

But if they consist primarily of the elimination of the $35 per week expendables, the stationing of an inquisitor at the petty cash drawer and the indiscriminate shearing of the budgets of departments whose functions primarily are merchandising, sales and revenue-producing, then the problem now at hand not only will remain unsolved, it will not even be touched.

•

If the programs entail actual surgery on the exorbitances and extravagances of Hollywood; if they reform the senseless skyrocketing of bidding for literary and stage properties, which draw smirks even from the sellers; if they result in the elimination of stereotyped production thinking and if they develop production planning based upon theatre needs and customer wants, and if they eliminate the round pegs in the square holes elsewhere in the industry, then and only then will something have been accomplished.

The recent $300,000 Hollywood contract to Babe Zaharias for some golf shorts is a minor example of what creates industry ills.

The present problem was not created last week by the British Treasury. It is much older than that and much bigger than that.

It is not a dripping faucet to be repaired with a new washer.

It is actually a break in the main and it requires excavation and replacement.

Perhaps it has been seen and recognized as such, and the programs drafted accordingly.

If not, the industry will be as vulnerable to the next blow, and the one after that, as it now finds itself to be to the present one.

Newsreel Parade

SECRETARY MARSHALL departing for the conference in Rio and the peacetime atomic energy development are among the newsreel highlights. Other items run from bullfighting to a boy scout jamboree and varied sporting events. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 101—M[illegible]ll departs for hemisphere parley in [illegible]. A nation is born: Pakistan. Fighting in Indonesia. Australians protest against Dutch. Belgium prince regent in Congo. First atom energy project for peace begun in East. Seaplane landing test. British jet flying boat. Plumber who makes hats out of pipes. Town fights bull in France.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 299—First peacetime atom project. Hemisphere parley hailed by President Truman. New nation rises in India. First Indonesian war films. U. S. scouts on jamboree. Free-for-all bullfight.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 102—Some 35,000 scouts meet in France. Indonesia just before the truce. Convention of twins. Marshall flies down to Rio. Bikini one year later.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 65—India is partitioned. Russian lumberjacks riding log rafts down mountain streams. Wreck of 19-car freight train at Elizabeth, N. J. Baby parade in Wildwood, N. J. Boy scouts arrive in France for jamboree. Auto racing. Pig-swimming derby. Blind golfers tee off at Duluth.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 104—Atom bomb developments. Boy scout jamboree. Marshall on way to Rio. War in Indonesia.

Seek Bill to Keep Library Film Unit

Washington, Aug. 17.—Dr. Luther Evans, head of the Library of Congress, has revealed the Library will sponsor legislation at the next session of Congress to authorize the Library's film section on a permanent basis.

The law would give the film section authority to collect films, distribute Government films, and serve as a clearing house on film information. Until a decision is reached on such a bill, Evans said, the Library will merely store the film it has.

Confer on Production In Austrian Province

Washington, Aug. 17.—The film control officer in Salzburg Province, Austria, has conferred with local civilians on building motion picture studios in the province, the War Department announced.

The Department also reported that "The Immortal Face" is being produced by Film Wien in Vienna and that a second company, Unitas Film, has scheduled "God's Angels Are Everywhere" for future production.

Allvine on Broadcast

Problems of launching an independent motion picture company will be discussed on the Mary Magraret McBride program over the NBC network today by Glendon Allvine, vice-president of the newly-formed Medallion Pictures.

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Coming Events

Aug. 18-19—Annual fall managers' meeting of Fox Midwest, Hotel Muehlebach, Kansas City.

Sept. 19-20—American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Owners Association joint membership meeting to consider ratification of a resolution to unite [illegible] two organizations. Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Sept. 24-29—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C.

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1—Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association for Kansas and Western Missouri annual convention, Philips Hotel, Kansas City.

Paramount Presses Browne, Bioff Suit

Paramount re-activated its long pending suit against George Browne, deposed head of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes, and his representative, Willie Bioff, with a New York Federal Court motion on Friday for a summary judgment of $100,000.

The company contends this amount was paid unwillingly to Browne and Bioff between 1936 and 1938, when the two had threatened a strike of the entire union. The court action was initiated in 1941.

Reopen B&K Houses After IATSE Pact

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—Two Balaban and Katz theatres, the Admiral and the Drake, have reopened after having been closed twice during the past three months due to labor difficulties.

Originally B & K desired to eliminate matinees as being unprofitable, but IATSE operators local No. 110 declared that such action constituted a contract violation. However, the Admiral and the Drake reopened following mutual agreement that there would be matinees on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays and none during the week.

Hughes Promoted to UA District Post

John Hughes has been appointed assistant to Fred M. Jack, Southern district manager for United Artists, it has been announced by J. J. Unger, U.A. general sales manager. He will work out of the company's Southern headquarters in Dallas.

Hughes joined the company in 1937 in the contract department, was named play-date manager in 1944 and was promoted to the sales department last year.

Set Albany 'Life' Scale

ALBANY, Aug. 17. — "Life With Father" will start an engagement at the Warner Brothers' Strand Theatre here Sept. 17 at special prices of 90 cents to $1.20. The house's regular scale is 50 cents to 65 cents.

Exchange Workers, Companies to Sign

Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild front office exchange workers of United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and Columbia voted unanimously on Friday to accept the companies' offer in connection with pay increase and work-hour demands made by the union.

The companies' offer was to reopen negotiations with SOPEG on Nov. 15 next on hours and wages, at the same time guaranteeing the employes that wage increases which may be agreed upon at that time will not be less than those of the national patern of the other exchanges in the country. Employes are also assured that should there be a higher increase in New York exchanges or any other exchanges in the country, UA, 20th-Fox, Loew's and Columbia front office exchange workers will have the right to negotiate on the difference which may exist.

Otto Langer, SOPEG secretary-treasurer, who has been representing the employes in the recent negotiations, is expected to sign a new contract with the exchanges' managements tomorrow. The contract is said to stipulate that if the hours of other exchanges in the country are reduced, the hours of the signing exchange workers will also be reduced. "Improved" lay-off clauses and promotion clauses are contained in the new contract, SOPEG reports.

Lee Hits Tax Load At SETOA Meeting

MIAMI, Aug. 17.—Delegates to the Southeastern Theatre Owners of America convention returned home after hearing Claude Lee, public relations director of Paramount, attack what he called the "discriminatory tax burden" on motion picture theatres.

Lee, terming it a "miscarriage of justice," declared that the state and municipal admission taxes "often result from the thoughtlessness of well-intentioned officials who carelessly place the local theatre in the general category of amusements which the people can either take or leave alone without effect upon their well-being."

He urged the delegates to bring the facts to "the consciousness of your fellow-business men and civic leaders from whom are drawn periodically the officials of your municipality and state."

'Life' Premiere Gets Big Press Coverage

A group of 125 press and radio representatives returned here over the weekend after attending the world premiere of Warner Brothers' "Life With Father" at Skowhegan, Me.

Guests were welcomed at Skowhegan by Maine officials including Governor Horace A. Hildreth, Adjutant General George M. Carter and State Highway Commissioner Lloyd Nolan. Newspapers in both Skowhegan and nearby Madison issued special editions, devoting their front pages and most of the inside pages to "Life With Father" stories.

The premiere was covered by Warner Pathe News, with a camera crew headed by David Oliver.

The entire vast promotional job was under the direction of Mort Blumenstock, WB vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity.

FCC Gives Time for Para. Video Action

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—The Federal Communications Commission has extended for 60 days, until Oct. 15, the time when Paramount Theatres, Inc., must make a decison on its television holdings.

Through its subsidiaries Paramount now has two television stations in operation, a construction permit for another and applications filed with the Commission for five more. Under a Commisson ruling, no one company may have more than five television stations.

According to FCC officials, Paramount must either withdraw the applications for television stations filed by its subsidiaries, Interstate Circuits, Inc., New England Theatres, Inc., and United Detroit Theatres, Inc., for stations in Dallas, Boston and Detroit, or give up its interest in the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc. Through DuMont Paramount has television stations in operation in New York and Washington, a construction permit for a station in Pittsburgh, and applications for stations in Cleveland and Cincinnati filed with the FCC.

The Commission had previously granted the company an extension of 90 days from May 18.

Theatre Owners Win Admission Tax Delay

ST. PAUL, Aug. 17.—Independent theatre owners have won a week's delay for a full city council vote on the proposed five per cent municipal tax on theatre admissions.

Stan Kane, executive director for North Central Allied, told the council that he would press for an immediate attack on the legality of the ordinance if it was passed.

With hopes for defeat of the proposed levy brightened by the delay, new trailers have been prepared urging the public to vote on a petition in the theatre lobby opposing the tax on the grounds it is discriminatory, hits the pocket-book of the masses and is not based on ability to pay.

Petrillo Asked to Relax Music Ban

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—Representatives of the four nation-wide broadcasting networks have asked James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, to give them release from the existing federation ban forbidding the duplication of AM (standard band) musical programs on FM (frequency modulation) transmitters when operation is joint with AM transmitters.

Petrillo agreed to take the matter under consideration and to announce a decision shortly. A favorable decision by Petrillo would permit joint AM and FM transmission of the musical programs on the four networks.

2,500 Accounts for Warner Pathe Debut

The Warner Pathe Newsreel started officially yesterday with about 2,500 accounts in addition to the Warner theatres.

The 2,500 include the RKO Theatres circuit under the deal by which Warners purchased the newsreel from RKO Pathe.

Free Exchange of Media in Germany

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—Films produced in any of the four zones of occupation in Germany may now be shown in all of the others, the War Department has announced.

The Department released an Allied Control Authority directive which authorizes the free exchange of all newspapers, publications, magazines, films and books published in Germany among the four zones.

No pressure may be brought against the free exchange of media, the directive said, and it can be limited only by the needs of military security and of the occupation.

Loew's Prints Booklet On Children's Shows

Loew's International Corp. has begun distribution abroad of a 20-page illustrated booklet entitled, "Special Children's Shows—Why and How." Aim of the booklet is to encourage exhibitors to put on special children's shows with the sponsorship of civic, business and religious groups.

The project, initiated by Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International Corp., was prepared under the direction of David Blum, publicity director. Loew in his introduction to the pamphlet, points out the need for community-planned children's shows as a means of countering the charge that motion pictures contribute to juvenile delinquency.

Universal to Begin Moving in September

First occupancy by Universal-International home office staffers of the new headquarters building now under construction at Park Avenue and 57th Street, here, is expected to take place immediately after Labor Day, a company spokesman said at the weekend.

As construction of each individual floor is completed additional personnel as well as furniture and fixtures will move over gradually thereafter from present RCA Building quarters until, in about mid-October, the entire organization will have moved into the new building. Thus far, a banking firm, occupying the street level, is the only tenant.

Paramount to Aid LA 'Variety Girl' Bow

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 17.—Full, cooperation of the Paramount studio in the plans for the local benefit premiere of "Variety Girl," has been extended by Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production.

The part the studio will play in the staging of the benefit performance, the proceeds of which will go to the Los Angeles Variety Club's charity fund, was discussed at a meeting between Ginsberg and Charles Skouras, chief barker of the local tent.

Produce Tom Loy Play

Tom Loy, IATSE publicist, here, and former MOTION PICTURE DAILY staff writer, has written a play, "Something on the Ball," which producers Ray E. Hinkley and Ernest W. Mandeville will present daily this week at the Ithaca College Little Theatre, Ithaca, in conjunction with the Finger Lakes Drama Festival.

SAMUEL GOLDWYN SPEAKS

LAST WEEK the British government announced a tax of 75% on all American film earnings in Great Britain.

I look at this as the greatest challenge we have ever had to meet in our business.

What happens at No. 10 Downing Street in London affects Main Street, U. S. A. Not only the producers, but every one of the 16,500 exhibitors in America must revamp his thinking and his way of doing business if he is to meet the threat of the British tax and keep his theatre open.

"Of 123 pictures sent into the foreign market," Daily Variety pointed out the other day, "only 19 paid their negative costs in the domestic market. All profits came from foreign showing. *And* 85% of the foreign market for American films is in Great Britain."

The meaning of that is clear. Producers will hereafter have to depend on the domestic market alone for a return of their costs and a profit commensurate with the value of their pictures. This leaves them with two alternatives: to produce cheap pictures with a minimum of time, money and talent, or to continue to gamble fortunes in the attempt to make really fine films. I believe most of us will take that gamble, for without first-rate pictures the entire industry is doomed, producer and exhibitor alike.

While drastic readjustments must be made in Hollywood, the exhibitor, too, must realize that his ability to stay in business depends directly on whether or not his policies encourage the making of good motion pictures. He must discard his hidebound theories and ancient prejudices. He must learn, like any other wise retailer, to distinguish between quality product and inferior product. And he must treat each according to its merit.

We believe this message to be of such significance to the entire industr

OUT ON THE BRITISH TAX!

(*Reprint from Weekly Variety, August 13, 1947*)

A case in point is "The Best Years of Our Lives." When the judgment of critics and preview audiences confirmed my own opinion that it was an outstanding picture I decided that it was time to get away from the old habit of treating all films alike. I was sure that the American public would be willing to pay a fair admission price to see a genuinely fine picture even if the price was higher than that being charged for run-of-the-mill films.

Amazingly enough, resistance to this policy came not from the public, which flocked to see the picture, but from the exhibitors. Whether they represented large circuits or individual houses, with a few notable exceptions, they resented this departure from the conventional method of charging the same standard price for all pictures, good and poor.

As a result it was necessary for us to show "Best Years" in theatres off the beaten path, to guarantee running expenses, to bear the burden of the exploitation campaigns. And yet the receipts, *and the exhibitor's share,* were far above what they would have been if we had been content to stick to out-moded methods of pricing and selling the picture.

That is only one illustration. But it proves a point. If exhibitors insist on charging uniform prices in the future, they will get uniform pictures. And uniform pictures will not keep the theatres filled. Instead they will actually drive people away. Only exceptional pictures will keep our theatres open. And for the exceptional picture it is not only fair—but now an absolute necessity—to charge a price which bears some reasonable relationship to the true value and quality of the entertainment offered.

Only this way can we continue to produce fine films.

And only by producing fine films can we survive!

that we have obtained permission to reprint it.—RKO-RADIO PICTURES, INC.

New Theatre Building and Planning Activity Brisk

New theatre building and planning activity across the country is continuing at a strong pace, according to reports received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field. During recent weeks scores of new theatres and drive-ins have been completed and many have opened.

Although the Government apparently has tightened standards for screening theatre construction projects, according to reports on approvals which have come from Washington, potential builders do not seem to be discouraged. Announcements of blueprinting work and purchases of sites have come in a steady stream.

Supplementing previous listings of construction and planning activity, the following is a partial report of most recent developments:

ALABAMA—H. P. Whatley will open his new Arabian Theatre, at Arab, about Sept. 1.

CALIFORNIA—Robert L. Lippert has opened his new, 500-car, $100,000 Mooney Grove Drive-In at Pixley. At Riverbank, William Peters has opened his new Del Rio which seats 750. Newly-populated Millbrae will be the site of a new Golden State theatre. Blanco and Martin have opened their new 700-seat house, the Soledad, in San Francisco. Stanley Court, who recently opened a new theatre in Livingston, has begun construction on another new house at Delhi. A 600-seat, $8,250 theatre will be built at La Loma by Clifford W. Morris in association with Redwood Theatres. Gordon Allen's new 500-car drive-in has been opened in Hayward. Robert L. Lippert has opened another 500-car drive-in at Modesto.

COLORADO—A 500-car, $100,000 drive-in will be built at Pueblo by L. R. Semon. At Fort Collins, W. F. Aydelott will construct a 400-seat subsequent-run house.

DELAWARE — Construction is nearing completion on the new Smyrna Theatre, at Smyrna, which will seat 600.

FLORIDA — C. N. Hall has opened his new drive-in on the outskirts of West Palm Beach. A $40,000, 600-seat Negro theatre has been slated for construction at Lakeland by Talgar Theatre Co. Talgar has also announced plans for a $150,000 Negro theatre at Tampa.

GEORGIA—Opening of M. B. Mills' new 562-seat theatre at Moultrie has been set for Sept. 1.

IOWA — The Uptown Theatre Corp., newly-formed at Sioux City under the leadership of A. M. Seff, has announced plans to spend approximately $75,000 on a new 700-seat theatre there.

KENTUCKY—Last Friday was set as the opening date for Otto Marcum's new St. Clair Theatre at Lebanon Junction. Upon receipt of Civilian Production Administration approval, construction will begin immediately on Roland Foster's planned 428-seat theatre for Bloomfield. Louis A. Arru has opened his new drive-in, equipped for 500 cars, on the outskirts of Louisville. A $340,000 building, which will house a new theatre, is being blueprinted for Louisville's South section by Mrs. Mary Impellizzerri. M. H. Sparks' new $80,000 Strand Theatre has been opened in Louisville. The Bonn Theatre has been completed in Bonnieville by Bonnieville Amusement, newly-formed organization owned by a group of individuals who are all new in the industry. George Lindsay will build a new theatre in Brownsville.

LOUISIANA — Alvin Schroeder has opened a new theatre, the Ideal, in Jefferson Parish. A new theatre, which will show "art" films exclusively, will open shortly in Vieux Carre. Chester F. Owens, who is affiliated with Pelican Producing Co., is building a new theatre in New Orleans. Harold Resweber's new Main has opened in St. Martinsville.

MARYLAND—William G. Myers, owner of the Echo and DeLuxe, Baltimore, is having plans drawn for erection of a new neighborhood theatre in Baltimore's Ashburton section; it will seat 1,000. Sidney Lust's new 1,000-car drive-in has opened in Beltsville.

MASSACHUSETTS — Samuel Goldstein, president of Western Massachusetts Theatres, has announced that the circuit will build two new theatres—one in Springfield and one in Northampton. Edgar Briggs' new drive-in at Dalton has been opened.

MICHIGAN—Carley Amusement and W. S. Butterfield Theatres have opened their new jointly-owned Michigan Theatre at South Haven.

NEBRASKA—Bud Thomas has been given the "green light" to build a new open-air house near Brady. A $150,000 drive-in will be constructed by Lincoln Realty Co. near Omaha.

NEW YORK—The new 1,000-car Fabian-Hellman drive-in, which has been under construction since April near Albany, has been opened. The Cataract Theatre Corp. will enter the "open air" theatre business with the construction shortly of a new $200,000, 750-car drive-in on the outskirts of Niagara Falls. Kallet Theatres has opened a 1,000-car drive-in on the outskirts of Utica. Harry Lamont has opened another new 350-car drive-in near Middletown.

NORTH CAROLINA—Kannapolis will have a new theatre, the 1,000-seat Gem which is under construction. H. B. Meiselman has purchased property in Charlotte for erection of a new theatre—to seat about 700—and shopping center; cost will be about $200,000.

OHIO—Theatre Enterprises will open its new drive-in at Woodlawn late this month. Ralph Kinsler, general manager of Montgomery Amusement, has acquired a site in Kennedy Heights, near Cincinnati, for erection of a new 1,500-seat theatre. A new drive-in has been opened by George Vlachas at Mt. Healthy. J. Gerbetz and Vincent Lauter, have opened their new 750-seat West Theatre at Barberton.

OKLAHOMA — Griffith Consolidated Theatres has purchased a tract of land between Enid and Oklahoma City for construction of a new drive-in.

OREGON—J. W. Moore has announced he will build a new theatre at Umatilla.

PENNSYLVANIA — Lincoln Drive-In, new operation owned by the Fabian-Hellman circuit, opened last week in Philadelphia; it accommodates 1,000 cars.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Dr. E. B. Funderburk has opened his new drive-in at Walterboro. B. B. Anderson, owner-operator of the Anderson Circuit, has opened a new theatre at Pamplico. A 350-car, $90,000 drive-in will be constructed next winter at Greenville.

SOUTH DAKOTA — American Legion Post No. 274 has opened the Legion Theatre, a new house at Corsica.

UTAH—The new Main Theatre has been opened by Reed Wood at Garland. The new Huish Theatre at Richfield, a memorial to the late Charles E. Huish who operated a central Utah circuit, has been opened at Richfield.

WASHINGTON — Chester Nilsoon and Les Theuerkauf of Tacoma expect building of their new drive-in near there will be completed in 60 days. Paul Volkman has opened his new, 750-seat Liberty Theatre in Wapato. Milwood Investment will erect a $150,000 theatre in suburban Spokane, which will be operated under long-term lease by Spokane Valley Theatres; seating will be for 700.

Reorganize Century Dept

In a reorganization of Century Theatres' real estate and insurance department, James F. Reilly and Joseph G. Wickham have been added to the staff as field representatives, while former field representative Martin J. Tracey has resigned, it has been announced by comptroller Martin H. Newman.

Modernize Theatre

CHICAGO, Aug. 17. — A $75,000 modernization program for the Chelten Theatre building has been announced by Martin H. Anderson of Charles Ringer Co., manager of the property. The remodeling will include new projection equipment, a new screen, modern seats and new air-conditioning equipment.

New Gastonia Firm

GASTONIA, N. C., Aug. 17.—Gaston Securities Corp. has been organized here to operate motion picture theatres and other places of amusement. Incorporators are: M. M. Watkins, Spartanburg, and G. B. Mason and Henry Rankin, both of Gastonia.

Texas Books 'Black Gold'

"Black Gold," Allied Artists film, is now playing the 117-theatre R. E. Griffith circuit in Oklahoma, and has been booked to start on Interstate circuit, with 158 situations in Texas, Oct. 2, the studio announces.

Set 'Gone With the Wind'

Loew's Theatres and M-G-M will re-present "Gone With the Wind" at the Criterion, on Broadway, and in some 50 Loew's theatres throughout the country beginning late in August and early September.

Remodel RKO Jefferson

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—The Office of the Housing Expediter has approved RKO Theatres' application to remodel the RKO Jefferson, New York City, at a cost of $42,000.

WB Names Taylor

DANBURY, Aug. 17.—B. M. Taylor, formerly manager of the Warner Brothers theatre in Lawrence, Mass., has been named manager of the Warner Brothers Capitol in Danbury.

Short Subjects

"Clown of the Jungle"

(*RKO Radio*)

Donald Duck is found deep in the heart of the African jungle for the purpose of photographing birds in their natural habitats. The appearance of the Aracuan bird disrupts Donald's plans and drives him crazy. A *Walt Disney Production* in [illegible]nicolor. Running time, six mi[illegible]s.

"Hollywood Wonderland"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Two guides conduct a musical tour through the Hollywood studios and sing out the points of interest to a group of sightseers. The visitors are taken to the various behind-the-scenes artists and craftsmen who contribute to the finished product on the screen. A *Technicolor Special* film. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Diamond Gals"

(*Paramount*)

Portrayed in this *Sportlights* subject are the 150 girls who make up the squads of the All-American Girls' Baseball League. It is a regular, not a soft ball, summer league. Running time, 10 minutes.

Palace Repertory

Films selected for the second week of the RKO Palace Theatre repertory program here include: "Kitty Foyle," tomorrow; "My Favorite Wife," Wednesday; "Notorious," Thursday, Aug. 21; "The Bells of St. Mary's," Friday, Aug. 22; "The Woman in the Window," Saturday, Aug. 23; "The Spanish Main," Sunday, Aug. 24, and "Love Affair," Aug. 25.

Burglars Get $867

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 17.—Burglars reportedly stole $867 from the safe of the Lawrence Theatre here last week, according to David Cherman, one of the theatre's owners. Part of the money represented theatre receipts and part from candy receipts placed in the candy storage cabinet.

Set 'Unconquered' Fete

As a highlight of a two-day civic celebration that will terminate the American premiere of Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered," a banquet will be staged Oct. 2 in Pittsburgh's William Penn Hotel at which governors and mayors of the Ohio Valley region will attend along with DeMille.

Devonshire Franchise

CINCINNATI, Aug. 17. — Ed R. Wheeler, local distributor of Astor Pictures, has been granted the franchise for Devonshire product in this territory, released by a new organization with headquarters in Boston.

Sale of U. S. Films

Bids will be received until Sept. 3 for outdated Government films, the War Assets Administration announced at the weekend. The films can be inspected at the Comprehensive Service Warehouse, 203 West 146th St. here.

Industry Hope

(Continued from page 1)

in different parts of the country at the present time and it is uncertain when they can be brought together.

Contacted in Spokane, Johnston indicated that he would decide over the weekend whether to poll MPA members by long distance telephone or call a board meeting. Full text of the British offer was telegraphed to him from Wa[illegible]gton.

N[illegible]nly had there been no statement from the American members of the joint Anglo-U. S. trade advisory committee on the proposal of the British Film Producers Association of last Wednesday for a meeting of the group to devise alternatives to the British tax for presentation to the Attlee government, but on lower industry levels there was outright skepticism in the trade over the BFPA proposal.

Skepticism Seen as Wedge

If the skepticism noted were to spread throughout the American industry, it became obvious that BFPA's proposal might serve to drive the two industries farther apart, rather than bring them closer together.

The BFPA stated last week it had "concrete proposals" to present to the American industry and, perhaps later, to the British government in the way of alternatives to the confiscatory tax now in effect. It was ascertained that, up to late Friday, no hint of those proposals had been received here.

Accordingly, the American industry expressed reticence about joining in or otherwise committing itself to a compromise program which, up to then, the British producers had not seen fit to share with the American trade.

BFPA Plan Boon to UK

Also, it was noted with some misgivings here on lower executive levels, that in the same breath with which it advanced its plan for a joint Anglo-American counter-tax move, the BFPA not only expressed its hopes for a new Quota Act of presumably more stringent restrictions than the present one, but also suggested that, with the aid of the British government on procuring buildings and materials, the British industry could make progress within two or three years toward complete self-sufficiency and increased film exports, besides.

These solely lower executive levels (top executives left their offices early on Friday because of the high temperatures prevailing and, thus, were not available for questioning or comment) held to the opinion that there was room for suspicion that the BFPA's proposal was not wholly free of self-interest.

As one observer put it: "They are aware that they need the American industry and its product now, but are hoping that, with the help of the American industry and the British government, they won't need it two or three years from now.

"It is completely obvious," he continued, "that any compromise acceptable to the British government must effect a considerable stoppage of dollar remittances to the U. S. Therefore, what can possibly come from the BFPA proposal that could not, for example, come from the Washington talks with the British government commission on liberalization of the British Loan agreement terms?"

The Washington conferences on the British Loan terms, which could result in a dollar-freezing agreement, instead of a tax, are scheduled to begin today.

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About 30,000 Sq. Ft.
For sale or long term ground lease.
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'Free World' Blow

(Continued from page 1)

question of free communications among free peoples," he declared.

He said that "the American and British governments, the American and British motion picture industries, must show statesmanship of the highest order."

Richard Griffith, executive director of the National Board, said: "The scale and extent of the tax imposed by Britain upon American films suggests the kind of taxation usually associated with luxury items. But motion pictures are not a luxury. Their continued and increasing international exchange is a necessity to a free and peaceful world."

E-L Acquires

(Continued from page 1)

E-L to supplement E-L's program of its own high-budget films and those of J. Arthur Rank.

The E-L officers who will continue to function are: Arthur B. Krim, president; Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production; A. W. Schwalberg, vice president and general sales manager; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity director, and Sam Israel, studio publicity head.

In a statement issued from Hollywood, Krim said: "The acquisition by Eagle-Lion of its own system of exchanges marks another milestone in the progress of the company. This new setup will definitely mean greater efficiency in the sale and distribution of our own pictures and those which we distribute for the J. Arthur Rank Organization."

SRO Sales Setup

(Continued from page 1)

vision, comprising the Boston, Buffalo, Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Detroit sales territories. Sam Horowitz, Chicago district manager, will be in charge of the Central division, comprising Chicago, Minneapolis, Des Moines, Kansas City and St. Louis.

Henry G. Krumm, Dallas district manager, will head the South and Southwest division, comprising Atlanta, Charlotte, New Orleans, Memphis, Dallas and Oklahoma City. John T. Howard, Los Angeles district manager, will manage the Western division, comprising Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver, Salt Lake City and Seattle.

Kusell said that two extra district managers and 12 additional sales representatives will be named soon.

New Television Firm

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 17.—Television Screen Productions, Inc., has been incorporated to produce and deal in motion picture films and television. Incorporators are: Charles C. Miller and Charles J. Basch, Jr., both of New York City, and Clarence Schmidt of Garden City, L. I. Cravath, Swaine and Moore were incorporating attorneys.

Start Video Shows

Marlowe Television Associates, Inc., recently organized video production firm here, is now at work on a series of 13 television adventure shows, according to Harvey Marlowe, president of the new firm. The series is titled Tom Terriss's Tales of Mystery and is being recorded on 35mm film with sound. One of the films is now completed and ready for showing.

Denny to Speak to NAB

Washington, Aug. 17. — Federal Communications Commissioner Charles Denny will address the annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters, the NAB has announced. Denny will speak at a luncheon meeting on Sept. 18. NAB's convention will be held in Atlantic City from Sept. 15-18.

Dedicate Video Station

St. Louis, Aug. 17.—Network television shows were promised to St. Louis within a year, and spot newsreels in the future, at the dedication of the new 20,000-watt KSD-TV Station, a property of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch.*

Westinghouse Video Bid

Washington, Aug. 17. — Westinghouse Radio Stations, Inc., has applied for a construction permit for a new experimental television relay broadcast station "within continental limits of the United States," the Federal Communications Commission announces.

3 New N. C. Stations

Charlotte, Aug. 17. — Three new radio stations, WNAO and WHAO-FM, at Raleigh, N. C., and WADE, at Wadesboro, N. C., have been established.

WADE is already on the air, and WNAO and WHAO-FM will go on the air in December.

Seeks Video Permit

Washington, Aug. 17.—The Elm City Broadcasting Corp., New Haven, Conn., has applied for a construction permit for a commercial television broadcast station, the Federal Communications Commission has disclosed.

Manson in RMA Post

Washington, Aug. 17. — Stanley H. Manson, public relations manager of Stromberg-Carlson Co., has been appointed chairman of the advertising committee of the Radio Manufacturers Association, succeeding John S. Garceau.

RMA-NAB Unit to Meet

Washington, Aug. 17. — Liaison committees of the Radio Manufacturers Association and the National Association of Broadcasters will meet on Aug. 26 here to discuss mutual problems.

NY-DC Railroad Phone

An adaptation of the Western Electric 238-type mobile radio telephone system is being used for the new radio-telephone service between Washington and New York for the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio railroads, according to the Western Electric Co.

100 Million Radio Tubes

More than 100,000,000 radio receiving tubes were produced during the first half of 1947 despite a recent decline below the record output earlier in the year, the Radio Manufacturers Association reports.

New Altec Assignments

Frank Evans, Philadelphia Altec branch manager, has been shifted to Cincinnati as branch manager, while Ralph E. Pierce, now in Boston, succeeds him as Philadelphia branch manager, effective Sept. 2.

Altec Contracts

The Fox West Coast Agency Corp. has contracted with Altec Service for the Ritz and Fox theatres in Hanford, Cal., the Fox and Hyde theatres in Visalia, Calif.; and the Nevada in Reno.

Jennings With Altec Here

Frank H. Jennings, electrical engineer with Altec Service for many years before the war, has returned to Altec's New York district as a service engineer.

Fabian Pensions

(Continued from page 1)

along the Eastern seaboard and employs approximately 1,300, some of them on a part-time basis, such as ushers and doormen. There has been no determination of the number of personnel which would be affected as yet, Rosen said.

Rosen reported he already has advised personnel of his intentions of providing for a "dignified" income for persons retiring in addition to the separate means of additional remuneration while working by way of the bonus program.

He said he has long since taken the view that any employe faithful to a company over a long period "certainly" should be given financial consideration when the time for retirement arrives.

CLUE TO A HIT!
4
'GREEN FOR DANGER'
"Corking good thriller! Alastair Sim terrific!"
—N. Y. POST
THE SCREEN'S UNPARALLELED ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

70% of Houses Now Playing Double Bills

Due mainly to increases in the number of reissues and in the playing of British pictures, more than 70 per cent of the theatres throughout the country now are on a double-feature policy, according to a checkup by MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Previous surveys had placed the number of dual-bill houses at 60 to 65 per cent. Boosts of 10 per cent or more over the past year, however, are reported from a large number of exchange centers.

In the New York Metropolitan area alone, exclusive of Broadway first-runs, almost 75 per cent of the theatres play duals. A few houses split their weekly time between single and double bills, but the big majority play two features regularly.

Another contributing factor to the double-feature increase, according to circuit executives and independent exhibitors queried, is the unfavorable short subject situation. Most producers of shorts have either curtailed activities or stopped making the more elaborate type of subject (two-reelers and "featurettes"), claiming that production costs have skyrocketed too high in relation to the rentals they are able to obtain. This has reduced the number of available shorts that could be billed as "second features."

Exhibitors also contend that, despite periodic blasts against double bills, box-office results continue to show that the majority of regular paying customers favor this type of program.

2-Coast Reaction to M-G-M Film Similar

Sectional surveys of public reaction to M-G-M's "Green Dolphin Street" conducted by the Motion Picture Research Bureau, have indicated a uniformity of favorable opinion from audiences in New York and Long Beach and Glendale, Cal., where sneak previews have been held.

At a preview a few nights ago at Loew's Prospect Theatre, Flushing, L. I., 92 per cent of the audience interviewed considered the picture either "excellent" or "very good." The remaining 8 per cent were divided between "good" or "fair." Similar previews are to be held shortly in large cities throughout the country.

Carolina Film Service

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 17.—John M. Vickers, head of the newly-organized Carolina Film Service, which is building a warehouse for inspection and shipping, declares that his concern will not be connected with the proposed Selznick booking office that is to be opened here. Construction will begin immediately, he adds, and is expected to be finished in 90 days. Carolina Film Service will handle the physical distribution of Selznick films in the Carolinas.

'Louisiana' Premiere

World premiere of "Louisiana," Monogram, has been set for Oct. 7 at the Strand in Shreveport, La.

Review

"The Pretender"

(*Republic*)

THE plan to have a man murdered backfires against the planner in Republic's "The Pretender." The outline of the story is a familiar one, but it receives skillful treatment here and emerges as a generally engrossing tale.

Albert Dekker is cast as an investment broker who misuses the funds of a lady client. When he gets too deeply involved, he decides on marrying the lady as a solution. However, it turns out that she is to marry someone else. At this point, Dekker decides to have his unknown rival killed by a hired gunman. Unfortunately for Dekker, the lady uses her eternal prerogative; she changes her mind and marries Dekker. By this time, the machinery of murder is in motion, and although Dekker tries desperately to call the deal off, a series of circumstances prevent it. He grows more and more frantic, and in trying to save his life, loses it.

Adequate support is offered by Catherine Craig as the heiress wife, and Charles Drake, a psychiatrist. An unusually fine characterization of an underworld personality is turned in by Alan Carney. W. Lee Wilder handled the production and direction from an original screenplay by Don Martin.

Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 16.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Mine Bureau Films Increased Showings

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17. — The Bureau of Mines reports that showings of its educational films increased 20 percent in the fiscal year just ended as compared with the previous fiscal year, and that more new films were acquired in the year ending June 30 than in any year since 1940.

Bureau films were screened 111,168 times, it was reported, before audiences totaling 8,096,517 persons. During the year 1,064 copies of films were added to the Bureau's library, for a total of 5,646 films in circulation. Nine new titles were added.

Files Suit on Deposit

CHICAGO, Aug. 17.—C. J. Drobney, lessee of the Gage Park Theatre, has filed suit against Anna Steinger, property owner, for recovery of a cash deposit on a lease. Drobney claims that the lessor did not rebuild or remodel the theatre within 60 days after an accidental fire in 1946 in accordance with terms of a lease covering accidental damage. Recovery of $750 security on lease and damages are sought.

Eubanks Named

ATLANTA, Aug. 17.—T. H. Eubanks has been appointed comptroller for the Georgia Theatre Co., it was announced by William K. Jenkins, president. Marca Barre, whom Eubanks succeeds, has been with the Georgia Theatre Co., five years and will take over similar duties with the Wilby-Kincey theatres circuit, headquarters in Atlanta.

Issue U. S. Film Guide

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—"A Guide to U. S. Government Motion Pictures," Library of Congress-compiled booklet listing 1,330 films produced by some 30 Government agencies, is now available from the U. S. Superintendent of Documents. The 100-page guide costs 40 cents. Films are classified by subject, and there is both a title and subject index.

37½c Disney Dividend

Quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on the six per cent cumulative convertible preferred stock, payable Oct. 1 to stockholders of record on Sept. 13, has been declared by the board of directors of Walt Disney Prod.

Clearance Award, Dismissal by AAA

Maximum clearance granted to the Center and Hyannis theatres, Hyannis, Mass., over the Orleans, Orleans, Mass., is one day on such features only as the Center or Hyannis shall play within 14 days of availability, it has been stipulated by arbitrator Sumner H. Babcock, the American Arbitration Association reports here. Orleans owner-operator Charles S. Wilcox had filed the clearance complaint against all five majors with the Boston Tribunal.

The Orleans had been subject to simple clearance or prior run of the Center and Hyannis, both of which are operated by Cape Amusement Co., intervenor in the case.

AAA reports also that arbitrator Clarence Denning of the Cincinnati tribunal has dismissed the complaint brought by Ames Theatre Co., Dayton, against Loew's on the ground that the complainant has failed to prove that there is no substantial competition between the Ames and the other theatres about which complaints were registered.

Milwaukee to Greet Native Son Carson

A full round of activities, including his appointment as Honorary Mayor for the day, has been arranged for Jack Carson when he pays a two-day visit in his home town of Milwaukee, beginning on Friday, the Warner home office discloses here. City and state officials will participate in a number of events of the program sponsored by the Milwaukee Junior Chamber of Commerce.

M-G-M-Siam 16mm. Deal

The signing by Loew's International Corporation's 16mm division of a contract to supply M-G-M entertainment films to the Siamese Royal Air Force has been announced by Morton A. Spring, first vice-president. The contract was arranged by Suntorn Jubandhu, M-G-M's manager in Siam.

Warner Signs D'Andrea

Warners has signed Tom D'Andrea to a new actor-writer contract, it was announced over the weekend by Jack L. Warner.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Aug. 17.

Two of the three pictures to go into work at RKO were big budget films, "Good Sam," new Gary Cooper starrer with Ann Sheridan, Edmund Lowe and Frank McHugh in the top cast spots, and "Stations West," starring Dick Powell with Jane Greer, Agnes Moorehea[illegible]rl Ives, Guinn Williams and [illegible]don Oliver. The Cooper film is being produced and directed by Leo McCarey, and Sidney Lanfield is directing the Powell starrer for Robert Sparks. The third starter was "Under Arizona Skies," with Tim Holt and Ann Leslie. Herman Schlom is producing, with Wallace Grissell directing.

●

Columbia's two new ones are "A Little Spanish Town," new Gene Autry musical western being produced by Armand Schaefer and directed by Frank McDonald, and "Blondie's Anniversary," with Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake in their familiar roles.

●

More than doubling its output of color films over the previous year, Republic's production score this year totals 12 features and one short being filmed in Trucolor and one feature in Technicolor. Only six color features were among last year's releases by that studio. Present production plans call for an increased use of color in all musical and straight features. . . . Warners report acquisition of new story properties for stars Errol Flynn and Dane Clark. The new vehicle for Flynn will be a dramatic thriller about mountain climbers in the Alps, titled "Half Way House," which Peter Godfrey is to direct. Scheduled for Dane Clark is the newly purchased melodrama, "Act of Violence," a story of two ex-GIs who carry a bitter Army feud back into civilian life. Jerry Wald is to produce. . . . The same studio's forthcoming musical, starring Jack Carson, gets a new title, "April Showers." It was previously known as "Barbary Host" and "Footlights." . . . Monogram also announces a title change for "The Dusty Trail." It will be released as "Prairie Express."

●

Paramount has bought the screen rights to Roy Chanslor's new novel, "Hazard," a story of a hard gambling woman. Mel Epstein draws the production chore on it. . . . The famed old Belasco play, "Daddies," has been scheduled for early production by Warners. Alex Gottlieb will produce. . . . "Gus the Great," selected as the Book-of-the-Month for September, has been purchased by Universal-International. The forthcoming Humphrey Bogart-Lauren Bacall starrer, "Key Largo," will be directed by John Huston. It will mark the fourth film appearance together of Miss Bacall and her actor-husband. . . . Irving Reis will direct Universal's screen version of the Broadway stage success, "All My Sons." It will be his first film for U-I. . . . George Waggner, former Universal-International director and producer, will shift his activities to Republic on a three-way contract, as writer, producer and director. His first assignment there will be "Eagles in Exile," to star John Wayne. —W. J. McG.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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VOL. 62. NO. 35 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 1947 TEN CENTS

Eady, MPA To Discuss British Tax

UK Delegation's Talks With U. S. Under Way

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. — Officials of the Motion Picture Association plan to confer with Sir Wilfred Eady, head of the visiting British financial delegation on Britain's 75 per cent film tax.

Sir Wilfred had declared on his arrival from London that he intended to talk with Joyce O'Hara, assistant to MPA president Eric Johnston, and others at MPA. Presumably, however, he was too tied up talking to U. S. officials on relaxing the loan agreement to contact the MPA today.

MPA officials said they thought they might hear from him tomorrow or Wednesday, with exact details of what he has in mind. If necessary, they said, Johnston will fly back from his West Coast vacation to be present.

The loan talks got off yesterday to the usual newsreel and photographic start, but it was indicated not much in the way of results could be expected at least until mid-week.

Meanwhile, State Department of-

(*Continued on page 8*)

MGM Sales Meeting On Coast Aug. 30

A six-day sales conference with M-G-M field managers and home office assistants, starting Aug. 30, will be conducted by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Among those expected to attend from the home office are: Edwin W. Aaron and Edward M. Saunders, assistant general sales managers; William B. Zoellner, head of short sub-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Delay Decision on Free Films in D. C.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Decision on the showing of free films for children in District of Columbia playgrounds will be reached after further conferences between District theatre men and Department of Recreation officials, it was agreed here today fol-

(*Continued on page 6*)

U-I Keeps to Film Program DespiteUKTax

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18. — Universal-International will proceed with its original production program for 1947-48 as scheduled, despite loss of the British market, Nate Blumberg, president of Universal, announced here today following a series of conferences in which top U-I executives participated. Chief problem before the conferees was the British tax situation.

At the same time, William Goetz, production chief, disclosed that he had postponed his projected production conferences in England with J. Arthur Rank because of the necessity of "coordinating and following through on the elaborate U-I production program."

"It is obvious that all motion picture companies, including our own, must effect savings," Blumberg said.

(*Continued on page 8*)

200 at 2-Day R. & R. Circuit Convention

DALLAS, Aug. 18. — Semi-annual convention of the Robb and Rowley circuit, operating 115 theatres in Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas, will be held here Tuesday and Wednesday at the Hotel Adolphus. George Jessel

(*Continued on page 8*)

Set Probe of New Air Freight Rates

Washington, Aug. 18. — An investigation of the schedule which went into effect on Aug. 1 and reducing air freight rates by an average of 25 per cent, was ordered today by the Civil Aeronautics Board. The film industry ships a large amount of freight by air.

The new schedule was passed by the CAB over the protests of various air freight forwarding groups, which contended that the new rates were unfair to large shippers. In ordering the probe, the board rejected the plea of the forwarder group to suspend the new rates pending completion of the inquiry.

N. Y. 1st-Runs Boom; 'Father,' 'Mitty' Are Record Smashers

Grosses shot upwards to tremendous heights at several New York first-runs this week, paced by the record-shattering performance of "Life With Father" at the Warner Theatre. Another mighty newcomer is "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," which also lays claim to a record. "Black Narcissus," "Welcome Stranger," "Bachelor and the Bobby-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Okla. Asks MPTOA Name Be Kept in ATA Merger

OKLAHOMA CITY, Aug. 18.—Possibility that the name of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will be used to identify the organization which would be the outgrowth of a merger of MPTOA and the American Theatres Association is sugested by Morris Lowenstein, president of the MPTO of Oklahoma, an MPTOA unit, in a current organizational bulletin.

Upon approving the merger proposal, originally, officials of both ATA and MPTOA advanced "Theatre Owners of America" as the name of the new organization. The name, as well as the actual merger and other proposals, are subject to ratification by the membership of both groups at a convention to be held at the Shore-

(*Continued on page 6*)

St. Louis MPTO Backs ATA Merger

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 18.—Strong sentiment among Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America members for continuation of that body's services as a representative of exhibitors in trade issues, was revealed at the meeting here of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois.

The meeting approved the proposed merger of MPTOA and the American Theatres Association, but the resolution states the new organization

(*Continued on page 6*)

Monopoly in Color Charged ToTechnicolor

Named with Eastman in Restraint of Trade

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18. — The Justice Department disclosed here today it had filed an anti-trust suit charging Technicolor, Inc., and Technicolor Motion Picture Corp. with monopolizing professional color cinematography, and with having conspired with Eastman Kodak Co. to restrain and monopolize that business in violation of the anti-trust laws. Eastman Kodak is also a defendant.

Suit was filed in U. S. District Court for the Southern District of California, at Los Angeles.

"This case is a part of the Department's program to break up monopoly power in industry," Attorney General Tom Clark stated, in announcing the action.

Assistant Attorney General John F. Sonnett, in charge of the anti-trust program, claimed that Technicolor does over 90 per cent of all business

(*Continued on page 6*)

Delay to Dec. for Schine, Griffith

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Supreme Court officials indicated today that the Schine and Griffith anti-trust case appeals will probably not be argued before the court until December, with the major New York equity case com-

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPEA Picks Matzner For Hungarian Post

Appointment of Karl Matzner as manager for the Motion Picture Export Association in Hungary was announced here yesterday by Irving A. Maas, MPEA vice-president and

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"Mother Wore Tights" is reviewed on page 3. Key city grosses are reported on page 8.

More Percentage Suits Are Filed

TOLEDO, Aug. 18.—Eight distributors filed percentage suits today in U. S. District Court here against Ellsworth L. Staup and Capitol Theatres, in complaints made by Columbia, RKO, 20th Century-Fox, Warner Brothers, Loew's, Paramount, Universal and United Artists. Theatres mentioned are the Capitol and Star, in Delphos, O.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs are Jones, Day, Cockley and Reavis of Cleveland, and Welles, Kelsey, Fuller, Cobourn and Harrington of Toledo. The complaints were signed by Luther Day, Thomas M. Harman, and John S. Pyke, Sargoy and Stein of New York are also counsel for plaintiffs.

Defer Parkway Answer

Parkway Theatre Corp., Mt. Vernon, N. Y., and Leonard Finkelstein have been given an extension to Aug. 22 to answer charges of inaccurate box-office reports, as brought by RKO and Loew's in New York Federal Court. Nathan Steinberg, also a defendant, already has filed a general denial.

SEG Ratifies Contract Extension on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—The Screen Extras Guild, by a vote of 2,603 to 21, has approved extension of the existing contract to Aug. 1, 1948.

The action, taken to escape the necessity of putting the Taft-Hartley law to a test immediately, is a prelude to the SEG's filing a National Labor Relations Board petition, after Aug. 22, requesting a special election to prove that the majority of its members desire to retain the Guild shop. It is believed that the SEG procedure will be generally followed by other studio crafts.

AMPP Extends Janitors, Culinary Locals' Contracts to Aug., 1948

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—The Association of Motion Picture Producers has extended contracts with the janitors and culinary locals to Aug. 14, 1948, on the same basis it recently extended contracts with other unions. The extensions continue the cost of living increase granted last January, which would have expired in December, but do not bring any other change.

Five More Studio Unions Sign Pact Extensions

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—In a rush to beat the Thursday night deadline for extension of existing contracts, which thereafter would be affected by the Taft-Hartley law, five studio unions today signed extensions with producers. These are the laborers, plasterers, electricians, story analysts, and story clerks, bringing to 10 the number of unions signing these extensions. Two more are expected to do likewise before the deadline.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, is in Hollywood after a brief stay here.

•

SYDNEY BOX, producing head of Gainsborough, and EARL ST. JOHN, chief production adviser to the J. Arthur Rank Organization, will leave here for Hollywood today and are due back in London Sept. 20.

•

SOLOMON M. STRAUSBERG, president of Interborough Theatre Corp., New York, has been elected to the board of directors of Beth-El Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, will leave here today for a visit to the Albany and Philadelphia branches.

•

PAUL WILSON, 20th Century-Fox Southern division manager, has returned to Atlanta after conferring with the Charlotte branch manager.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Republic's Southern division manager, is holding a meeting in Atlanta with branch managers and salesmen.

•

CLARENCE HILL, 20th Century-Fox branch operations manager, has left New York for a week's vacation at Lake Placid.

•

HAL WALLIS, Paramount producer, is due back in Hollywood from England on Sept. 7.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, is in San Francisco from New York.

•

VLADIMIR POZNER, managing director of M-G-M International, is in New York from the Coast.

•

LOU PELEGRINE, Paramount trade press contact, has left here for a two-week vacation in Canada.

•

JULES V. BERKOWICH, mid-West division exploitation manager for Columbia, is in Cincinnati from Chicago.

•

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, is in town from the Coast.

•

SAM SHAIN, 20th Century-Fox exhibitor and public relations chief, returned here yesterday from Miami.

•

MARGARET ETTINGER, film public relations consultant, is in town from Hollywood.

•

DAN FISHER, producer, has returned to the Coast from New York.

MAURICE BERGMAN, Universal-International Eastern advertising-publicity head, is back in New York from the Coast.

•

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M studio publicity chief, is due here today by plane from the Coast, while his assistant, RALPH WHEELRIGHT, and FRANK WHITBECK, head of studio advertising, are due tomorrow.

•

EMIL A. KERN, president and general manager of J. E. Robin, Inc., theatre equipment exporters, has left here for Mexico where he will set up a branch office.

•

BERNIE EVENS, M-G-M exploiteer with headquarters in Kansas City, has returned there after vacationing in the East.

•

WALLACE BEERY, M-G-M actor, is due here Thursday from the Coast and will leave for a visit to England on Aug. 27.

•

JOHN R. CLARK, assistant to the president and general manager of Technicolor, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

DOROTHY DAY, fan and national magazine contact for M-G-M, has returned here from a month's visit to the Coast studios.

•

JULES LEVEY, United Artists producer, is due in Paris today from London.

•

HOWARD LE SIEUR, United Artists assistant advertising-publicity director, is on vacation.

•

MARK HELLINGER has returned to the Coast from New York following completion of location shooting.

•

ROBERT WEITMAN, managing director of the New York Paramount is vacationing at Grossinger's.

•

JOSEPH L. ROBERTS, Vanguard Films publicist, is on vacation for two weeks.

•

BILLY WILDER, director, and a Paramount camera crew, have arrived in Berlin.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor-public relations head, returned here yesterday from Miami and Detroit.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew's assistant treasurer, returned here yesterday from a vacation in Swampscott, Mass.

•

CHARLES DIETZ, M-G-M exploiteer in Detroit, is vacationing here.

IATSE Opens Week's Meeting in Boston

BOSTON, Aug. 18.—The week-long meeting of the IATSE executive board opened at the Copley Plaza here today. Information on the subjects under discussion in the closed session was withheld pending completion of unfinished business.

Plan DeMille Tour

Cecil B. DeMille, producer-director of "Unconquered," will make a personal tour of 12 of the nation's key cities in connection with the premieres of his film. The tour will get under way following the opening at the Loew's Penn Theatre, Pittsburgh, on Oct. 3.

Mesher Promoted by Fox West Coast

PORTLAND, ORE., Aug. 18.—M. M. Mesher, general manager of FWC's Evergreen Theatres in this territory, has been promoted to district manager of the Southern division of Fox West Coast. William Thedford of Los Angeles will succeed Mesher in Portland, effective Sept. 1.

During the war, Mesher was state chairman of the industry's public relations committee.

Paramount, 20th-Fox Report on Backlogs

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—Two more companies report on the number of pictures finished and awaiting release at this time, compared with those finished and awaiting release at the corresponding period in 1946.

They were: Paramount, 16 finished this year, compared with 21 last year, and 20th Century-Fox, 12 this year, compared with 11 last year.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN
WM. HOLDEN
JOAN CAULFIELD
'DEAR RUTH'
IN PERSON
HENNY YOUNGMAN
HENRY 'Red' ALLEN & BAND
Extra!
EUGENIE BAIRD

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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3 AFL Officials Hit SAG Charge

Los Angeles, Aug. 18.—Three American Federation of Labor arbiters who wrote the jurisdictional directive which settled the 1945 studio strike, stoutly denied today that Carpenters' International union president William Hutcheson had "pressured" them into issuing the disputed "clarification" in 1946 which led to the revival of inter-union strife.

The arbiters, Felix Knight, W. D. Dougherty and W. B. Birthright, all A. F. of L. vice-presidents, offered their denial at the House Labor Subcommittee hearings here after Ronald Reagan, Edward Arnold and Pat Somerset asserted that the arbiters had disclosed the pressure by Hutcheson when the SAG committee went to Washington to urge the A. F. of L. to settle the studio strike.

The arbiters, maintaining that their original directive was correctly conceived, said Pat Casey, producer labor representative, had erred in later giving to IATSE between 300 and 500 jobs properly belonging to the carpenters.

Testimony directly concerning the basis of the present strike is expected from other key witnesses at tomorrow's session.

RMA to Push Fight On Excise Taxes

Washington, Aug. 18.—The Radio Manufacturers Association will renew its fight for repeal or reduction of the 10 per cent radio excise tax, RMA president Max F. Balcom said in announcing reappointment of Joseph Gerl, president of Sonora Radio and Television Corp., Chicago, as chairman of a special committee in charge of the new drive.

The RMA excise tax committee, which this year made an appearance before the House Ways and Means Committee, is being enlarged and strengthened in anticipation of the renewed campaign. George N. Gardner, president of Wells-Gardner and Co., Chicago, was named vice-chairman of the committee.

Buchanan Resigns Coast U.A. Post

Hollywood, Aug. 18.—Barry Buchanan today resigned as United Artists director of public relations here in order to finish editing his "Encyclopedia of Show Business," on which he has been engaged for 11 years. No successor has been named.

Rex Branch on Coast

San Francisco, Aug. 18.—The Rex Distributing Co. of Los Angeles and New York, has established a local branch with John Lazzarini, formerly of 20th Century-Fox, as manager. The new distributors will handle European productions exclusively, which include: "Yank in Rome," "Paris Frill," "Fedora of the Opera" and "Scampolo."

Postpone Jessel Tribute

The scheduled Variety Club Sept. 20 dinner for George Jessel in Washington has been postponed until some time in January, according to R. J. O'Donnell, international chief barker of the Variety Clubs.

Review

"Mother Wore Tights"

(20th Century-Fox)

LEAVE it to 20th Century-Fox to make a musical that's different, one with a heart in it. In "Mother Wore Tights" it presents a picture handsomely framed in Technicolor and studded with songs and laughs. Telling the story of a song-and-dance team that begins at the turn of the century, it recaptures much of the charm and nostaglia of the passing parade. Add to this Betty Grable cast as the mother of the title, and Dan Dailey the father, and you have a film designed to keep things on the sunny side of the ledger.

The screenplay of Lamar Trotti constitutes a leisurely series of everyday events rather than any sequences of mounting dramatic heights. Its strong dramatic value lies in the fact that every member of the family will find a reflection of themselves in the proceedings. As a shy kid just out of school, Miss Grable lands a job in the chorus of a show where she meets and marries the featured comedian, Dailey. The two troupers tour up and down the country, with Miss Grable taking time out twice to give birth to two daughters. As the tale, related in retrospect, progresses, an off-screen voice of one of the daughters lends narrative cohesion to the events.

Gradually the girls, with little problems of their own, grow into their teen-ages and are put into a proper boarding school. Here the plot's primary complication develops when one of the youngsters, in love with a lad of imposing social standing, becomes ashamed of her parents' vaudeville background. A happy ending takes care of this hitch. The curtain comes down in 1946, with Miss Grable and Dailey puttering about sentimentally in preparation for a visit from their grandchildren.

Mona Freeman and Connie Marshall as the daughters lend convincing support to the principals. As the drama runs its course, an album of lilting melodies is opened. One number very likely to take popular hold is "You Do." Some of the many others are "Kokomo Indiana" and "There's Nothing Like A Song," all by Mack Gordon and Josef Myrow. Walter Lang directed with feeling. Trotti also produced from a book by Mariam Young.

Running time, 107 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, September.

Mandel Herbstman

Auslet Heads New Producing Company

New Orleans, Aug. 18.—Pelican Picture Corp., headed by Jack Auslet, pioneer in the film industry in this area, will start on Sept. 1 producing short subjects on various activities in this city and state, concentrating on entertainment, sports and cultural items, and regional traits of Louisianians. The Madri Gras, Sugar Bowl game and similar events will be covered.

Astor Pictures of New York will distribute.

Frudenfeld, Groth Honored on Sept. 11

Cincinnati, Aug. 18.—Arthur Frudenfeld, who will retire on Sept. 11 as RKO division manager here, will be honor guest at a farewell banquet to be given by the Cincinnati Variety Club, Tent, No. 3, at the Netherland Plaza, on Sept. 11. His successor, Emil Groth, transferred from Boston, will be welcomed at the affair.

N. T. Meet Opens

Kansas City, Aug. 18.—Treasurers of National Theatres opened a three-day conference today at the Hotel Muehlebach here. In addition to H. C. Cox, treasurer, and assistant treasurers Alan May and Lynn Baughman, treasurers and other executives from the six divisions are in attendance.

Bonafield Produces

Jay Bonafield, vice-president and general manager of RKO Pathe, Inc., will handle production on the company's "This Is America" two-reel documentary films. The series is released by RKO Radio.

Samuel Komm, 47, Dies in St. Louis

St. Louis, Aug. 18. — Samuel Komm, 47, head of Sam Komm Theatres, died of a heart attack yesterday. In addition to the Komm circuit of seven houses in St. Louis and suburbs, Komm owned the Aubert and Maplewood theatre building leased to St. Louis Amusement Co.

He is survived by the widow, a son, Millard Komm, and two daughters, Mrs. Eleanor Jabolnow and Carol Komm. Burial will be in Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery.

Mrs. Rose West

Hollywood, Aug. 18.—Mrs. Rose West, 48, wife of George West, Monogram franchise executive at the home office, died here today. Services will be held on Wednesday in Los Angeles, and burial will be in Waldheim Cemetery, Chicago. She is also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Leonard Wissman and Mrs. William Fedotin, both of Los Angeles, and a brother, Bernard Weisberg of Chicago.

Harry Hoffman, 81

New Haven, Aug. 18.—Funeral services were held here today for Harry Hoffman, 81, local real estate operator, who died yesterday. Among survivors are three sons, B. E., I. J. and Maxwell Hoffman, all of whom are executives of Warner Theatres.

Fontaine Expands Area

Cleveland, Aug. 18.—J. E. Fontaine, SRO Eastern division manager, will include Cleveland in his territory following the resignation of Grover Schaefer, who is now at his home in Rockville, L. I.

Coast Variety Tourney

San Francisco, Aug. 18. — The local Variety Club will hold its first annual golf tournament on Sept. 4. Committee members declare.

Weller Is Counsel Of ITO of So. Cal.

Los Angeles, Aug. 18.—Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona today appointed Fred A. Weller, former Department of Justice representative here, as its general counsel. Active as head of the anti-trust division here, Weller was in charge of the local preparation of Government cases against Paramount et al, as well as preparation of the Technicolor-Eastman case filed in Federal Court this morning.

Following his appointment, Weller declared: "I am pleased with this opportunity to help independent exhibitors meet new problems, and help them protect themselves at a time when exhibition is being notably affected by many changes in distribution."

Albany Variety Club Entertained at Camp

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 18.—Fifty members of Tent No. 9, Variety Club, were entertained today by campers at Camp Thacher in the Helderbergs, operated by Variety and the Albany Boys Club. With Neil Hellman, chief barker, in charge of arranging today's outing, the visitors observed sports in the afternoon, then attended an entertainment program which was followed by a dinner.

Representing a five-fold increase since Variety assumed financing of the camp four years ago, 500 youngsters have been guests at the camp this summer.

Sees Quick Approval For Schine Theatre

Buffalo, Aug. 18.—Quick approval is expected here of a motion for permission to replace a Schine theatre destroyed by fire in Salisbury, Md. The motion was made by attorney Willard S. McKay, counsel for the Schine circuit, who told Judge John Knight in U. S. District Court that a consent order, drawn in Washington between Schine and the Department of Justice would arrive here in a few days.

McKay informed the court that the motion would not be opposed by Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General and prosecutor of the anti-trust suit against the circuit.

Coast Town Faces Tax

Bakersfield, Cal., Aug. 18. — Opposition to a proposed municipal ticket tax, was vehemently voiced by theatremen and other business groups here. The referendum will go before the public for a vote this week. The local Chamber of Commerce branded the tax "a discrimination against the working man."

New Fresno Tax Rates

Fresno, Cal., Aug. 18. — The Fresno county board of supervisors has adopted regulations covering new licensing and taxing of theatres. Theatres have been designated to pay $40 a quarter on their first 300 seats and $1.50 for each additional 100 seats or fraction thereof.

To Meet on Tax

Cleveland, Aug. 18.—Meeting of the board of directors of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association to discuss the proposed three per cent city amusement tax, has been postponed to Thursday.

Record-breaking business!

"Wyoming" gets off to smash World Premie
in Cheyenne followed by 83 day-and-date engageme
in Rocky Mountain area!

and now

more Class "A" top dates!

ORPHEUM • VOGUE • EL RAY • BELMONT • CULVER
of Fox West Coast Unit, Los Angeles

PARAMOUNT, San Francisco • **SAENGER**, New Orleans • **LYRIC**, Salt Lake Ci
MAYFAIR, Baltimore • **IMPERIAL**, Charlotte • **FULTON**, Pittsburgh • **PALACE**, Jacksonvi

And many more of the world's finest theatres are now booking

THRILLING

WYOMI

IS A GREAT OUTDOOR DRAMA

re-fire draw. Brimming with action."
Hollywood Reporter

enty to cheer about.
oroughly entertaining. Superior
estern." **Showmen's Trade Review**

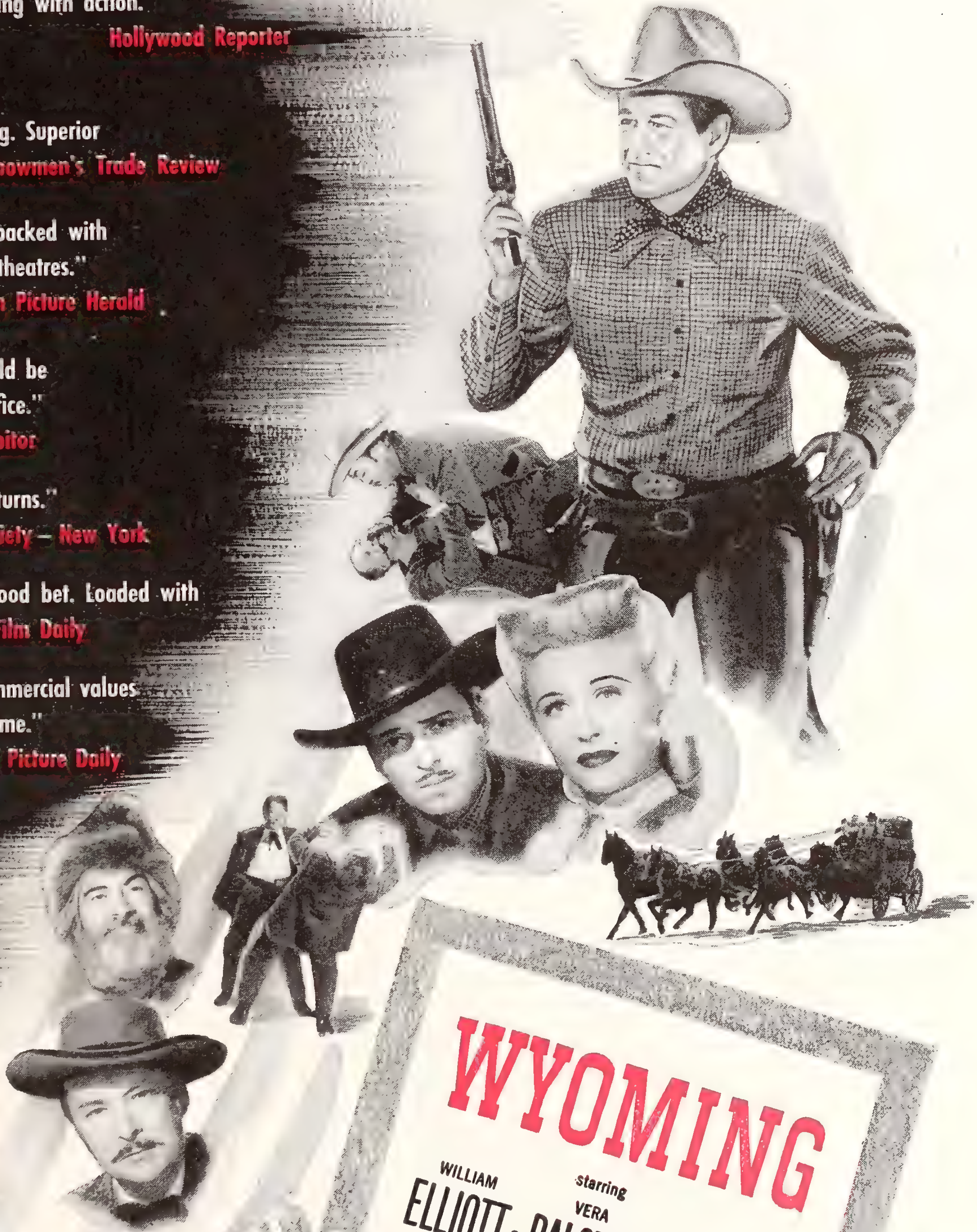
gh budget western packed with
gredients which fill theatres."
Motion Picture Herald

enty of action. Should be
tisfactory at box office."
Exhibitor

ould reap strong returns."
Variety — New York

p grade western. Good bet. Loaded with
citement." **Film Daily**

andout western. Commercial values
ggest top playing time."
Motion Picture Daily



WYOMING

WILLIAM starring VERA JOHN
ELLIOTT · RALSTON · CARROLL
with GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES · ALBERT DEKKER
VIRGINIA GREY · MME. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA
Screen Play by Lawrence Hazard and Gerald Geraghty
Associate Producer-Director JOSEPH KANE

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Color Monopoly Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

in professional color cinematography, and since 1934 had produced positive film prints for all Class A color features and for most of the shorts and animated cartoons produced by the motion picture industry.

"It has entered into a series of agreements with Eastman," Sonnett continued, "whereby patents, new developments and technological information relating to color photography would be reserved for Technicolor's exclusive use in the professional field. In our view, Technicolor was thereby enabled to control and monopolize the business and was protected against potential competition."

According to the Justice Department, the suit asks that all illegal arrangements and agreements be cancelled and that the court order "such relief with respect to patents and know-how as will dissipate the effects of the unlawful practices charged and permit the establishment of free competition in the industry."

Clark's statement pointed out that 15 per cent to 20 per cent of all features exhibited today are in color, and said that the demand for filming motion pictures in color has far exceeded present capacities. "The effect of the practices charged in the complaint," he stated, "has been to restrict the development of the art of professional cinematography by others than the defendants, and to deprive the public of the benefits of competition in this business."

The Government's case was prepared by William C. Dixon, special assistant to the Attorney General, and James M. McGrath of the Los Angeles office of the anti-trust division. They worked under the supervision of Robert A. Nitschke, chief of the anti-trust division's cartel and patent section.

A 'Popular' Trust Suit

One film official, who asked not to be quoted by name, said that, "This is one anti-trust suit which will be popular with everyone in the industry but Technicolor."

He pointed out that several motion picture companies had run into a stone wall trying to develop their own color film photography, and declared that "maybe color costs will come down now."

A Department spokesman said that the suit against the Technicolor companies and Kodak was the result of a "long line of complaints" from many motion picture companies.

The Department's brief stated that Technicolor's monopoly had restrained and prevented "the potential expansion of volume of motion pictures filmed in color," has prevented motion picture producers from "establishing facilities of their own for color processing," has maintained "high prices and a monopoly of professional color cinematography."

Charge 'Illegal' Contracts

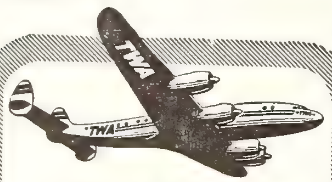
It stated that the contracts entered into between motion picture companies and Technicolor were illegal. In the contracts the companies bound themselves to use Technicolor's cameras exclusively, to "order in advance and purchase from Technicolor exclusively" all unexposed film required in production, and to order in advance and purchase exclusively from Technicolor a fixed minimum of positive prints and any additional prints required for distribution.

In 1945, the Department's complaint said, Technicolor's net sales were over $11,500,000.

The company produces more than 160,000,000 feet of positive prints of motion picture productions in color annually.

Officers of the Technicolor Motion Picture Corp. listed in the Department's brief were: Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager; David S. Shattuck, secretary; George F. Lewis, vice-president, and L. Alice Skinner, assistant secretary.

The complaint stated that Technicolor, Inc., owned all of the stock of Technicolor Motion Picture Corp.



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LOS ANGELES
10hrs.55min. non-stop $130 15 tax extra
premium flights extra
Your choice of 16 flights daily to Los Angeles . . . For immediate reservations see your travel agent or call
LExington 2-7100
Ship TWA Airfreight—rates cut 25%
TWA
TRANS WORLD AIRLINE

MAGNIFICENT Fireproof 7-Story Building in Jersey City; ideal for studio, movies, films, warehouse, etc. Large cathedral windows. 126,000 square feet and land adjoining. Railroad sidings. 3 minutes from Hudson. Tubes Cortlandt Street station. For sale or lease. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, Owners, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

CUTS COSTS IN HALF!
Save With Filmack's Prevue
TRAILER SERVICE
Filmack
1327 S. WABASH AVE. CHICAGO 5, ILL.
$4 50 A week

Welles to Do "Cyrano"

Orson Welles, now in London, will star in and direct a film version of "Cyrano de Bergerac" for Sir Alexander Korda's London Film Productions, it was announced here by 20th Century-Fox which will release the film in this country. Ben Hecht will write the script for the film which will be made in England early in 1948.

Complains of Film Ads in Newsreels

Indianapolis, Aug. 18.—Exhibitors should send film companies a bill for screen advertising when they ballyhoo new product in their newsreels, the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana declares in its August bulletin.

"Exhibitors should get some kind of compensation from 20th Century-Fox or Paramount if they are playing their newsreels," ATOI insists, adding: "Fox is using advertising on 'Forever Amber,' and Paramount is doing the same with 'Welcome Stranger'. Exhibitors should not have to pay for these issues, but rather should charge the distributor for running them," the ATOI added.

St. Louis MPTO

(*Continued from page* 1)

should "continue to represent exhibitors on trade practices and abuses." It also declared regional organizations of exhibitors should continue to enjoy local autonomy. The resolution was adopted unanimously.

Fred Wehrenberg, president of MPTOA and of the local MPTO, was in the chair at the meeting which was held in the Coronado Hotel.

The MPTO took up the question of advanced admission charges for "road-show" pictures at second-run houses, and a resolution was adopted asking that advanced prices be scaled to reflect the "popular price" rates of each theatre. Also approved was the 20th Century-Fox rental relief plan for distressed theatres.

Free Films in D. of C

(*Continued from page* 1)

lowing a hearing before District commissioners.

Before the commissioners referred the matter to the department, theatre spokesmen charged at the hearing that evening performances were unfair competition to commercial theatres. They also stressed that the children see commercial advertising films produced by tobacco and other companies.

Theatre men present at the hearing included: A. Julian Brylawski, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of metropolitan Washington; Carter Barron, M-G-M representative; Fred Kogod, head of K-B Theatres, and Louis Bernheimer, head of Bernheimer Theatres.

MGM Sales Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

jects, reprints and importations, and Henderson M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor and public relations. Expected from the field are the following sales managers: John P. Byrne, Eastern, New York; John J. Maloney, Central, Pittsburgh; Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern, Chicago; Rudolph Berger, Southern, New Orleans, and George A. Hickey, Western, Los Angeles.

Rodgers plans to leave here for Chicago on Thursday to spend several days there before going to the Coast.

MPTOA Name

(*Continued from page* 1)

ham Hotel, Washington, Sept. 19-20.

Lowenstein said it would be a "shame" to lose the value of the years of promotion and existence of the MPTOA by contracting the name to TOA, which drops entirely the allusion to MP (Motion Picture), which is fundamentally what the new organization will represent," Lowenstein submits. He adds, in a memb[illegible]ip bulletin, that "even if only for [illegible]mental reasons" the Washington meeting should hold to the name of MPTOA.

The head of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma emphasizes the need for unity in exhibition and then presents to members a number of proposals regarding the merger, asking that they express to him their views on each.

"Adequate financing" is underscored as the "first consideration" in Lowenstein's bulletin. "This will be no great problem if the right leadership is made available," he holds, adding that this would guarantee "success and financing." To this he adds: "Reciprocal benefit in such an association likely would cause affiliated circuits, at a cost of less than one cent a seat, to underwrite the primary move."

Lowenstein proposes a "most carefully chosen executive head" to maintain contact between the various units and to direct research, among other things; the establishment of an office either in New York or Washington; the employment of a general counsel on a retainer basis with the post augmented by legal representatives of affiliates and unit groups working in advisory capacities.

Also, Lowenstein said, directors of the new organization should take full responsibility in field work, assuming the position of liaison between the national organization and its units, and should attend all meetings of theatre groups, regardless of affiliation. Furthermore, he states, they should be alert to opportunities of boosting membership.

Lowenstein proposes that the board of directors meet at least twice a year, and that the executive committee convene quarterly to "steer" the work of the executive head.

He declares that members of the various committees should be compensated for all expenses incurred in organization work.

Schine, Griffith

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing up soon after, possibly early next year.

Since the Schine case has been on the docket since last October, officials originally believed it and the Griffith case would come up soon after the court returns next October. However, they say, the record in both cases proved exceptionally large, and there have been repeated delays in getting it printed, these delays making it virtually certain there will be no arguments before December.

MPEA Picks Matzner

(*Continued from page* 1)

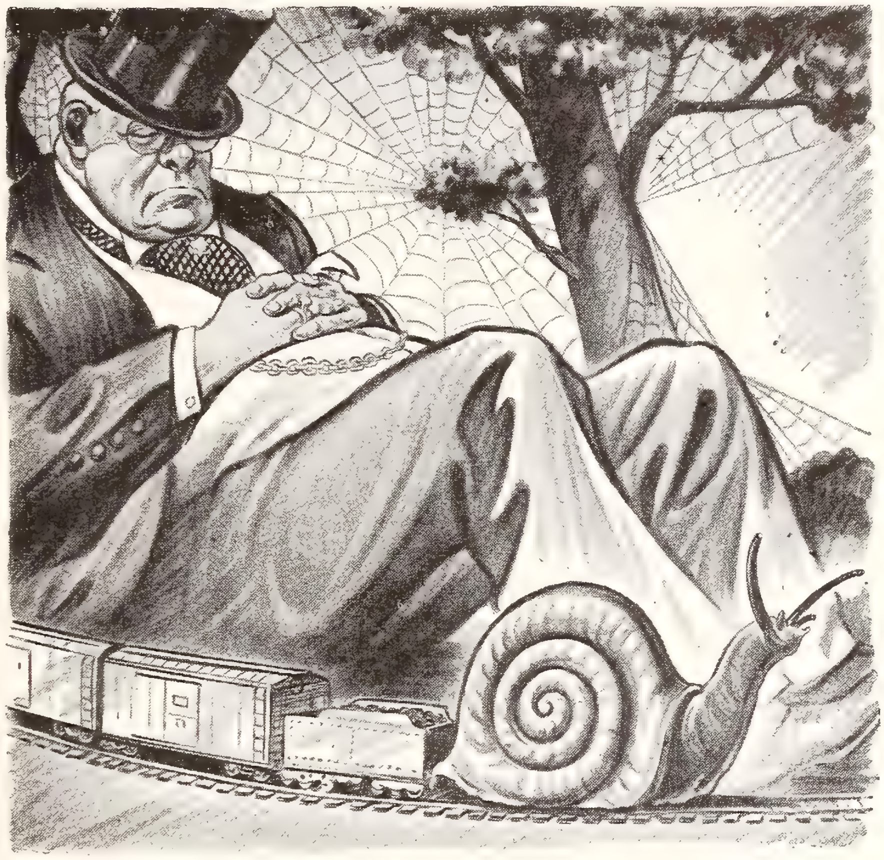
general manager. Matzner has been active in the Hungarian industry for the last 25 years, and prior to joining the MPEA, was manager in Hungary for 20th Century-Fox.

Matzner, whose headquarters will be in Budapest, succeeds Dr. Nicholas Palugyay, who has joined Paramount's international organization.

Let's Wake Up Rip Van Winkle!

Millions of bushels of food may rot in our fields this harvest time, instead of being available to the world's markets—because we are short of freight cars. Here is a way that thousands of cars can be freed for service in a hurry.

VC



Are old-line managements asleep in the dell while many freight trains creep at a snail's pace—by agreement?

ARE you interested in the price of food? Does it give you a twinge to see those pictures of mountains of wheat piled on the ground and potatoes going to rot—when there's a desperate world food crisis?

The bottle-neck is our freight-car shortage. But thousands of cars could be freed by a single decision—if old-line railroad managements would act.

Don't Blame the War!

This is hard to believe, but it's true: we have today only three-fourths as many freight cars in our country as we had twenty years ago. This shrunken fleet is now called on to handle the greatest peacetime traffic in history. And the war itself is not to blame for the shortage—for in no single year from 1925 to the start of hostilities did the railroad industry buy as many cars as it junked. Twenty years is a long time for even Rip Van Winkle to sleep!

What Can Be Done?

There is at least one remedy that can be applied at once—despite the steel shortage and other difficulties in car-building. This remedy requires no new equipment, no period of time—nothing but an act of management:

Lift what appear to be agreements between railroads that deliberately slow down freight trains!

Here is an example. There are eight important routes by which you can ship "fast" freight from California to Chicago. These routes vary in length as much as 450 miles. But, curiously, the time schedule for each of the eight is exactly 118 hours—and 30 minutes!

Similarly, scheduled freight trains moving west over the important routes from Chicago to the Coast areas, despite great differences in terrain and mileage, take exactly 130 hours—on the nose!

Is This Free Competition?

Could it be that these schedules are fixed by agreement? That the trains which could be fastest are held back for the slowest—so that no road can have even the slightest competitive advantage?

Railroad men know that, in many instances, a whole day could be cut off these schedules between California and Chicago—if managements would simply order it. If that were done, on these roads and on others, it would ease the national car shortage at once!

There is good reason to believe that by lifting deliberate freight slowdowns, on the roads that still practice them, *we could provide more cars this summer and fall than our shops can possibly build.* And every car is desperately needed!

A Call For Action!

The next few weeks will be the critical ones in our food problem. Our wheat crop is estimated to exceed any previous record by 300 million bushels. *It is even now being piled in the fields —for want of cars.*

If you feel as strongly about this as the C&O does, write to your newspaper and your congressman.

Ask them to stir up Rip Van Winkle —and tell him that time is short. Demand that our trains be scheduled not merely to suit the private deals of the railroads, but so that we can make the best use, for the whole public. of our depleted stock of freight cars!

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railway

Terminal Tower, Cleveland 1, Ohio

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BALTIMORE

The heat wave here had an adverse effect on grosses. Ahead were "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "Kilroy Was Here," and "The Other Love." Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 21:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,-500)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)

HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY (20th-Fox, reissue)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) With a stage show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $17,500)

MOONLIGHT SONATA (Equity)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2d week. Gross: $2,750. (Average: $3,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16,500)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends). Gross: $16,000. Average: $14,000)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

WYOMING (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)

CINCINNATI

The heat wave continued, with grosses uneven. In the lead were "Duel in the Sun," "Dear Ruth," and "The Perils of Pauline." Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19-22:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a move-over from the Grand. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE CORPSE CAME COD (Col.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c). With stage show. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $30,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-70c-75c) 4th week, following an initial week at the Albee, and two moveover weeks at the Shubert. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—KEITH'S (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-75c: $7,500)

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. Average: $10,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

PIONEER JUSTICE (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **WINTER WONDERLAND (Rep.)** Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **OVER THE SANTA FE TRAIL (Col.).** Gross: $1,650. (Average: $1,600)

Open Fresno House

FRESNO, Aug. 18. — Opening of the Mayfair Theatre here by Hardy Theatres Co. marks their fourth house here, the others being the Fresno, Fulton and Lyceum. The new theatre seats 850 and follows a subsequent-run policy.

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

Soxer," "Crossfire" and "Brute Force" likewise are giving the "show-case" belt its most important week of the season.

Theatremen acknowledge some assists by a weekend of dreary weather which sharply cut the competition usually provided by the beaches; huge crowds of out-of-towners, said by some to be greater than any since the war, also helped. But first and foremost reason for the big money is the product, they say, quite naturally.

"Father" has the Warner house bulging at its seams with business in the first week estimated at $57,000, an all-time high.

"Walter Mitty" is going great guns at the Astor with income skyrocketing to a new non-holiday mark, $67,500 for the week. The third new film, "Black Narcissus" is doing amazing business at the 800-seat Fulton Theatre where the first week is likely to bring in close to $33,000. "Frieda" is doing splendidly at the Park where $18,000 is looked for in a first week.

$105,000 for Paramount

The Paramount is having a happy time with "Welcome Stranger" and Carmen Cavallaro's orchestra on stage; the second week there should provide a big $105,000. At the Music Hall, "Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" is holding to an excellent level, with $88,000 taken in during Thursday through Sunday, indicating $148,000 for a fourth week.

"Crossfire," at the Rivoli, is another top money contender with $40,000 in view for a fourth week. Remarkable, too, is "Brute Force," at the Criterion, which figures on at least $30,000 for a fifth week. The Palace's experiment with a new re-issue every day is going over well. The program began last Tuesday with "Bells of St. Mary's" which brought in $1,950, and it went on from there as follows: Wednesday, "Love Affair," $1,700; Thursday, "The Informer," $2,500; Friday, "Top Hat," $2,000; Saturday, "Pride of the Yankees," $4,000; Sunday, "Gunga Din," $3,300. The policy will continue for at least another week, and possibly longer; if top product is available.

$56,000 for "Hucksters'

"The Hucksters," with Tony and Sally De Marco, among others, at the Capitol, is faring well enough in a fifth week which probably will gross $56,000, after taking $63,800 in a fourth. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," with Smith and Dale on stage, apparently will wind up a fourth and final week at the Roxy with $65,-000, which is adequate; "Mother Wore Tights" bows in there tomorrow. "Green for Danger" is a healthy tenant at the Winter Garden, where a second week's gross of $23,000 is indicated.

"Dust Be My Destiny" and "Marked Woman" figure to hit a favorable $35,000 in a second week at the Strand, while a second week of "Northwest Outpost" at the Globe probably will result in a mild $10,000.

At the Gotham, "Daring Desperadoes" and "Hellship Morgan" are not likely to go over a meager $8,000. "The Pretender" gave the Rialto a lukewarm $6,000 in one week, being followed yesterday by "The Corpse Came C.O.D."

Eady, MPA

(*Continued from page* 1)

ficials indicated they would like to do more talking to industry representatives before taking any stand on the British tax. Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is due here shortly to present to the Government the independents' objections to a remittance "freeze," and it was believed that further talks with MPA representatives would also be sought.

ATA Officials See UK Films Hit by Tax Issue

While expressing approval of the distributors' boycott of the British market, Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association, yesterday said he and ATA officers with whom he has discussed the matter are "hopeful" the tariff issue will be resolved early because of the "hardships" it would bring to all branches of the industry here.

He said the exhibitor here, always interested in sources of product, would be likely to find a lessening of the quality of British films in the event the "far too restrictive" action is continued.

He said in the opinion of himself and others in ATA the film companies took the obvious course in countering the British tax measure.

Goldwyn Sees Fair Solution If U. S. Takes Proper Steps

Belief that "if our Government assumes the responsibility to the motion picture industry which it should . . . it will be able to reach a fair working agreement with the British government with respect to revision of the (British) tax," was expressed yesterday by Samuel Goldwyn.

Goldwyn, declaring that "this is no time for name-calling or intemperate reactions," was confident that the British government "on considered reflection" would take steps to reach a fair solution "which will keep their theatres open and playing a fair share of American pictures."

Goldwyn urged "speed and the cutting of diplomatic red tape . . . before the breach becomes irreparable."

Bernstein to Return to Britain for Tax Talks

Sidney Bernstein, English producer, who has been in Hollywood for the past several months establishing Transatlantic Pictures Corp., has been called to England for discussions connected with the British tax. He arrived in New York yesterday, and is scheduled to fly to London today.

Bernstein helped formulate the plan for unfreezing blocked funds to American film companies in wartime.

Head of the Granada circuit, a major chain in England, Bernstein expects to return to Hollywood in four weeks to start his first Transatlantic Corp. picture, entitled "Rope."

Independents Appeal to Truman Directly for Aid on UK Tax

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 18.—Independent producers comprising the membership of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers today adopted a course of direct individual appeal to President Truman for help in combatting the British tax development.

Among independents who have sent wires to the President are Walt Disney, Mary Pickford, Seymour Nebenzal and Benedict Bogeaus, as well as California Pictures.

U-I Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

"However, these savings must come from increased efficiency, from greater effort of the entire personnel, both at the studio and in distribution. We are determined not to sacrifice the quality nor reduce the number of productions in our 1947-48 program."

Participating in the meetings, with Blumberg presiding, were Leo Spitz, Goetz, William Dozier, Rufus Le Maire and Edward Muhl from [illegible] studio, and Matty Fox, William [illegible] Scully and Joseph Seidelman from the New York office.

Changes in personnel and realignments of duties as necessitated by the increased efficiency plans have now been practically completed at the studio, the announcement said. The new "streamlined" setup went into operation today.

With the virtual completion of such projects as "The Senator Was Indiscreet," "A Double Life," "Tap Roots," and other productions now in their final shooting stages, a new group of U-I productions will go before the cameras shortly. These include Ramparts' "Letter from an Unknown Woman," starring Joan Fontaine and Louis Jourdan, with John Houseman and Max Opul producing and directing, respectively; Karl Tunberg's production of "Up in Central Park," starring Deanna Durbin, Dick Haymes and Vincent Price, and William Seiter directing; the Donald O'Connor starrer, "Are You With It," produced by Robert Arthur.

These and others to go into production within the next 10 weeks include, in addition: "All My Sons," with Edward G. Robinson and Mady Christians, produced by Chester Erskine and directed by Irving Reis; "Another Part of the Forest," with Fredric March, Florence Eldridge and Ann Blyth, Jerry Bresler producing, and Michael Gordon; the Marston production, "Casbah," starring Tony Martin and Yvonne de Carlo, produced by Nat Goldstone and directed by John Berry; and the Abbott and Costello comedy, "Brain of Frankensetin," produced by Robert Arthur.

Advertising conferences were held at the meetings, with John Joseph and Maurice Bergman outlining campaigns set for productions to be released in the next four months. Bergman returned to New York today.

Seidelman left for New York today, while Scully will remain here for another week to confer with his sales cabinet, which includes Charles Feldman, E. T. Gomersall, Fred Meyers, F. J. A. McCarthy and A. J. O'Keefe. District managers Barney Rose, San Francisco, and Foster Blake, Los Angeles, will also participate in the sales meetings.

R. & R. Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

will be the honor guest at the banquet on Wednesday.

Seventy-five executives and employees of Dallas headquarters as well as 25 outside guests will attend, along with 100 R. & R. delegates from the field.

Don C. Douglas of the Dallas office will be the Wednesday night toastmaster and speakers other than Jessel will include Robb and Rowley officials, and R. J. O'Donnell, vice-president and general manager of Interstate Circuit, who will introduce Jessel. E. H. Rowley will respond to Jessel.

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V[illegible]2. NO. 36 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1947 TEN CENTS

Coast Asserts Tax Won't Hit Product Plans

Expect Mild Economies Will Take Care of All

Hollywood, Aug. 19.—Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, RKO Radio, Republic, 20th Century-Fox and other studios reiterated today earlier statements that their production schedules will be maintained as planned despite the British market loss.

Universal-International made the same affirmation yesterday in a statement covering the company's program for production in light of the British situation.

Uniformly, studio executives took the position that the British situation is still fluid and probably will better rather than worsen.

They said that while costs will not be pushed to higher levels and marginal economies may be effected by lay-offs between pictures of such crafts workers as normally might be

(*Continued on page* 8)

Republic Finishing Regional Meetings

In a final series of Republic regional sales sessions, James R. Grainger, executive vice-president in charge of sales and distribution, will meet today and tomorrow in Detroit with James V. O'Gara, Eastern division manager; Sam Seplowin, Central District manager and Irwin H. Pollard, Detroit branch manager, and the entire Detroit sales staff.

On Friday and Saturday, Grainger will meet in Chicago with Will Baker, Midwestern district manager; Nat

(*Continued on page* 8)

SAG, IMPPA Sign 'Category' Pact

Hollywood, Aug. 19.—Screen Actors Guild and the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association today signed a one-year contract setting up "special category" concessions for films budgeted under $100,000. The pact, granted on an experimental basis and running to next Aug. 1, is the end result of extensive negotiations between the parties during which each

(*Continued on page* 4)

More Shorts Slated By RKO for 1948

A quantity increase in RKO Radio short subjects to make up for the loss of RKO Pathe News, recently sold to Warner Brothers, was disclosed here yesterday by Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president, and Harry Michalson, newly-elected president of RKO Pathe, at a trade press luncheon honoring Michalson. The luncheon, held at Club 21, was followed by a detailed announcement of the first short product increases contemplated, as made by Michalson in his first statement since assuming the presidency of RKO Pathe.

In addition to Mochrie and Michalson, and trade press representatives attending the luncheon were Jay Bonafield and Phil Reisman, Jr., associates of Michalson in RKO Pathe, and S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio advertising-publicity manager; also Rutgers Nielson, Harry Blair and Robert Boehnel of McCormick's staff.

Michalson stressed that he will also continue to head RKO Pathe short

(*Continued on page* 6)

Columbia Meet to Open Here Monday

Columbia will hold a meeting of division managers, managers of unsupervised branches and home office executives next Monday through Wednesday at the Hotel Warwick here. A. Montague, general sales manager will preside.

On the agenda will be a discussion

(*Continued on page* 6)

250 Boston Operators Vote for a Strike

Boston, Aug. 19.—Joseph Nuzzollo, president of local No. 182 of the IATSE, discloses here that between 250 and 300 members of the union, employed in 90 Boston theatres, had voted to seek permission of the International to strike on Aug. 31 if demands against theatre owners are not met.

Demands are, basically, for a six-day week instead of the present seven. The union head claims no raises have been given the operators since 1944, adding that in 1944 they were being paid less than in 1938. The present contract expires on Aug. 31.

Majors Ask Video Lanes Be Kept Open

Washington, Aug. 19.—Five major film companies have asked the Federal Communications Commission to continue to set aside certain radio frequencies for use by the motion picture industry for theatre television.

Letters have been received by the FCC, it was revealed, from Paul Raibourn, Paramount; Nicholas Schenck, Loew's; N. Peter Rathvon, RKO; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; and John J. O'Connor, Universal.

The letters urged the Commission to follow the recommendations made in February by Paul Larsen, of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers,

(*Continued on page* 6)

Uniform Film Quota Laws Set for World Trade Unit

Washington, Aug. 19.—Rules requiring the establishment of uniform, non-discriminatory film quota laws by member nations of the proposed International Trade Organization have been cleared by the Preparatory Commission at Geneva for inclusion in the ITO charter.

The action is viewed in Government quarters here as an indication that the film industry is a special industry, entitled to special treatment.

The State Department pointed out that the ITO charter agreed on at Geneva must be ratified at the United Nations Trade Conference, tentatively scheduled to be held in Havana, Nov. 21. If the film clause survives that, each member nation of the ITO must ratify it.

There is nothing in the charter yet as to how many nations must ratify before it becomes effective. However, ratification by the United States is said to be unlikely before next June.

The charter probably will not go into effect before late next year, if then, although there was an understanding reached at London, when the Geneva meeting was planned, that no nation would act contrary to anything in the charter while it was pending.

Nevertheless, several nations already have violated that understanding and, presumably, others will continue to do so.

This suggests that, if Britain decides to revise its Films Quota Act next spring, presumably it is free to

(*Continued on page* 8)

MPA Drafting New Proposal For British

Expect Early Meeting With U. K. Delegation

Washington, Aug. 19.—Officials of the Motion Picture Association were busily preparing today a new proposal for submission to the British financial delegation to break the stalemate over Britain's 75 per cent film tax and the industry's embargo rebuttal.

They refused to give any details, although they admitted they were working to have a new alternative to the Dalton tax ready "when the British contact us."

MPA said no word has been received by it from the British delegation up to late yesterday and added that they did not expect to hear from the British until later in the week.

(According to unconfirmed press reports from Washington yesterday the MPA's protest against the British film tax as a violation of the U. S. Loan Agreement with Britain, the British American Tax Convention of 1945 and the reciprocal trade treaty of 1938, which had been sent

(*Continued on page* 8)

Shipments Up 70% Prior to Embargo

Shipments of American motion pictures and film to the United Kingdom were running at the rate of 70 per cent higher this year than in 1946, up to Aug. 11, when U. S. companies effected an embargo on further shipments because of the 300 *ad valorem* duty placed by England on film imports. The increased figure is based on a U. S. Department of Commerce report of film exports to the U. K. for the first six months of 1947, released in Washington yesterday.

Washington, Aug. 19.—Indication of the sharp rise in film shipments to the United Kingdom earlier this year

(*Continued on page* 8)

3 Reviews Today

"Fun and Fancy Free" is reviewed on page 4; "Magic Town" and "Shoe Shine" on page 6. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Kodak Views Color Film Ties as Legal

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 19.—Eastman Kodak Co. today replied to charges of a monopolistic hookup with Technicolor, Inc., in the film industry's color photography business, made by the Department of Justice in an anti-trust suit filed in Los Angeles yesterday.

Kodak's president, Thomas J. Hargrave, denied existence of any monopolistic practices. "The company has not yet been served with a complaint in this action," Hargrave said, "and therefore it is difficult to comment on it.

"In our view, there is nothing in any existing agreement or arrangement with Kodak by which Technicolor does or could control or monopolize the professional color motion picture field. The company is prepared to meet these charges and has turned the whole matter over to its attorneys for defense."

Technicolor officials declined to comment yesterday on the Government anti-trust suit charging it with monopolistic practices contributing to inadequacy of color film processing facilities for the industry.

E-K Reports Sales Were 29% Higher in First Half of '47

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Aug. 19.—Sales of Eastman Kodak and subsidiaries in the Western Hemisphere were 29 per cent higher in the first half of 1947 than in the corresponding period of 1946, Perley S. Wilcox, chairman, and Thomas J. Hargrave, president, announced here today in a report to stockholders. Total sales in the period were $153,581,750, compared with $119,227,385 in 1946.

Net earnings for the periods were $20,299,661, equal after taxes and charges to $1.62 on the outstanding new common stock, for 1947, and for the corresponding period of 1946, $15,992,956, or $1.27 a common share.

Para. vs. Browne, Bioff Due in Week

Paramount's suit against George Browne, ousted head of the IATSE, and Willie Bioff, for a summary judgment of $100,000 is expected to be heard at the end of next week, in Federal Court here. The company re-activated the long-pending suit last week with a Federal Court motion.

Paramount contends that $100,000 was paid unwillingly by the company to Browne and Bioff between 1936 and 1938, when the two threatened a strike of the "IA" union. Paramount began a court action in 1941.

To Resume 'IA' Talks

Negotiations between Local No. 644, International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry, IATSE, and film companies here will be resumed today, following the return of Walter A. Lang, business representative of the local, from Boston, where the 'IA' executive board is meeting. The local, representing short subjects cameramen, seeks an $85 weekly increase, retroactive for two years.

Personal Mention

JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, is on vacation before departing for the Coast sales meeting.

•

ROBERT POOLE, HUGH BRUEN and STANLEY STECK are in Salt Lake City from Los Angeles for the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners' trustee meeting which opened there yesterday.

•

NORMAN LEVIN, Republic branch manager in Cleveland, who was taken ill while attending the Ohio Independent Theatre Owners convention, is sufficiently recovered to spend several hours a day at his desk.

•

A. N. MILES, owner and manager of the Eminence Theatre, Eminence, Ky., was in Pittsburgh recently to visit his son and family.

•

HENRY M. GLOVER, manager of the Monogram exchange in New Orleans, has been appointed colonel on the staff of Gov. JIMMIE DAVIS.

•

ROSELLEN CALLAHAN, United Artists publicist, has left here for a two-week vacation in the Laurentian Mountains.

•

EDWARD F. LOMBA, 20th Century-Fox International's managing director in South Africa, has arrived here for home office talks.

•

CHARLES REED JONES, special representative for JULES LEVEY, has returned here from Buffalo.

•

FRANK RIFFLE, Altec service engineer in Louisville, has returned there from vacation.

JOHN H. and WILLIAM SKIRBALL will sail from New York today for Europe on the *SS America*.

•

WILLIAM GOODMAN, Memphis Variety Club attorney, has been decorated with the Dutch military order of the knighthood for his World War II services.

•

FLOYD HARVEY, JR., Universal office manager in Memphis, will be married on Aug. 30 to Dorris Nunn of Webb, Miss.

•

GEORGE GUNN, head of Technicolor Ltd. camera department, will sail for London on the *SS Mauretania* on Friday.

•

ROBERT CORBIN, former manager of the RKO Golden Gate, has taken over management of the Royal Theatre, Cal.

•

TOM WALLER, New York public relations director for the Motion Picture Association, will leave here today for Washington.

•

DONALD CHRISTIANSEN has become manager of the Tower Theatre, Klamath Falls, Ore.

•

J. E. HUCKLEBERRY, sales engineer of the Motiograph Co., Chicago, was in Louisville last week.

•

TED BALDWIN, Selznick Releasing Organization promotion head, has left New York for Canada.

•

NORMAN AYRES, Southern regional manager for Warners, has been on a trip to Memphis from New York.

New French Studio Nearing Completion

France's new animation studio, where the American producer, Lou Bunin, will film his $1,500,000 color production, "Alice in Wonderland," is now in the final stages of construction, it was announced here yesterday by spokesmen for Bunin. The studio is located in Paris.

Bunin and his staff of 24 American artists-technicians will occupy offices there this week while construction continues. Actual filming of the Bunin film will start in September, with release set for June 1948.

'Roosevelt' to Open

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is scheduled to head numerous guests invited to the world premiere of "The Roosevelt Story" at Brandt's Globe Theatre tomorrow evening. Others invited to the initial showing of this first feature-length semi-documentary covering the last 40 years in the life of the late President, are Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations, and 35 delegates to the UN Council. Prior to the showing, Mrs. Roosevelt will present to Martin Levine, Oliver A. Unger, and Harry Brandt, producers of the picture, the plaque awarded to the film at the World Film Festival in Brussels, Belgium.

N. T. Treasurers Meet Ends Today

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 19.—Discussion of technical problems confronting National Theatre Corp. division treasurers was the keynote of the second day's conference here today of the circuit's treasurers. National treasurer H. C. Cox is conducting the session, which will end tomorrow.

In attendance are: Charles Shafer, Kansas City; George Patterson, Los Angeles; Clifford Reynolds, San Francisco; A. N. Ahlskog, Seattle; Isaac Werner, Denver, and E. M. Donnelly, Milwaukee.

AMPS Names Suder

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—William Suder, of the Army Motion Picture Service, has been appointed office manager of the AMPS Southeast regional office in Atlanta. Suder recently returned from detached service in Europe as deputy chief of AMPS' European command.

Smith Joins 'Look'

The appointment of William W. Smith as advertising promotion director of *Look* Magazine is announced here by Gardner Cowles, president of Cowles Magazines, Inc. Smith had been with *Good Housekeeping*, Street and Smith and Fawcett Publications.

Newsreel Parade

A VARIED assortment of items ranging from India's independence to American "G.I.'s" wedding Jap girls are in current newsreels. Also covered is the premiere of "Life with Father," several sporting events, and other happenings of local and international interest. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 102—Erupting volcano in Nicaragua. Army planes drop water bombs to fight forest fire. French president visits world jamboree of Boy Scouts. American soldiers take Jap wives. Private picnic of cute triplets. Soap-box derby in Ohio. Football preview. Girl trains grid team.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 300—"G.I.'s" find romance in Japan. Flag of independent India hailed by United Nations. Fliers drop water bombs to battle forest fires. Zoo's star boarder. Tennis. Something new in football. Soap-box derby.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 103—Soap-box derby. Navy puts giant planes into "mothballs." Pilgrimage in Belgium. Concerto in tobacco land.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 66—France's corn crop ruined by locusts. New Indian flag. Orphan's outing. British crisis committee arrives in New York Sports: Tennis, Soap-box derby.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 105—India's millions freed. Wheat harvest. Scouts at jamboree. Barber shop quartet. "Life With Father" premiere. "G.I.'s" wed Jap girls. Soap-box derby.

20th-Fox and Korda Publicity Staffs Meet

Discussions centering about the establishment of close relations between the publicity staffs of Sir Alexander Korda and 20th Century-Fox, distributor of Korda's London Film productions in the U. S., are being held this week by Charles Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director and his staff, Morris Helprin, Korda's special representative in the U. S., and David Golding, Korda's London publicity representative.

Golding, who arrived from England last week, will leave for London on Sept. 3 to begin work on publicity plans discussed here in connection with Korda's forthcoming pictures, which include "An Ideal Husband"; "Anna Karenina"; "Bonnie Prince Charlie"; "Cyrano de Bergerac"; an untitled Cary Grant starrer, and a new Carol Reed production.

Companies Submit to Walnut Case Probe

Film company defendants in the $2,100,000 anti-trust action brought by the Fifth and Walnut St. Corp., Louisville, and Albert J. Hoffman, operating the National Theatre, also in that city, have agreed by stipulation to allow the plaintiffs to inspect their records pertaining to the case.

Marie Slate Returns

Marie Slate, Eagle-Lion publicist here, who has been on summer leave of absence, has returned to the publicity department to resume work as national magazine contact, under the direction of publicity manager Leo M. Brody, it was announced yesterday.

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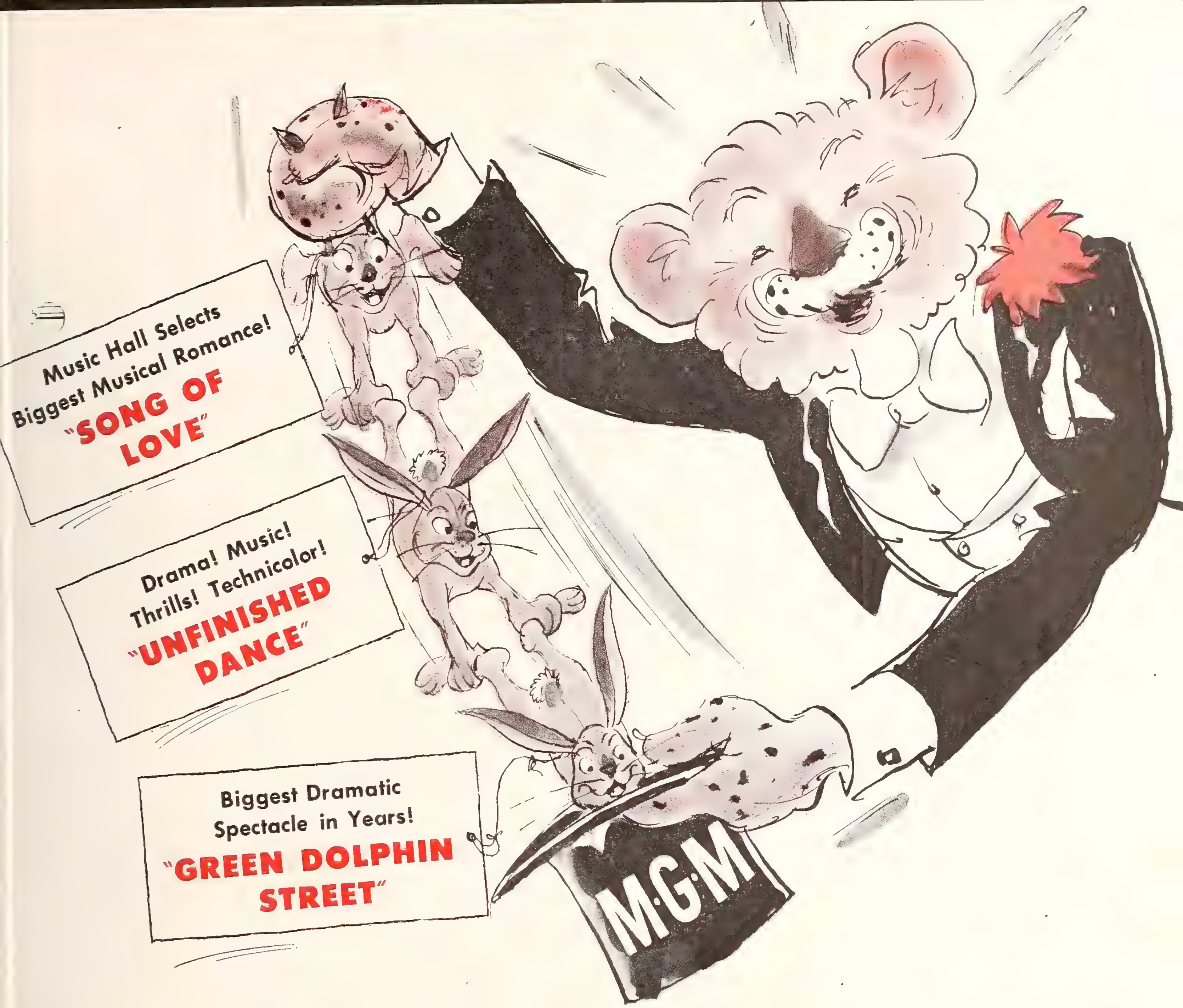
Music Hall Selects
Biggest Musical Romance!
"SONG OF LOVE"
Drama! Music!
Thrills! Technicolor!
"UNFINISHED DANCE"
Biggest Dramatic
Spectacle in Years!
"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"
M·G·M

THAT OLD M-G-MAGIC!

Come one, come all to the Biggest Shows this industry has witnessed since pre-war times!

●

"SONG OF LOVE": Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid, Robert Walker in Big Cast.

"THE UNFINISHED DANCE": (*Technicolor*) Margaret O'Brien and a specialty cast including Cyd Charisse, Karin Booth, Danny Thomas and others.

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET": Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart, in a cast of hundreds.

Fisticuffs Spark Hearing on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19.—Fisticuffs highlighted today's hearing before the House labor subcommittee when the committee's attorney, Irving McCann, angered at AFL counsel Joseph Padway's allusion to "Gestapo" procedures in the investigation, struck Padway. Violent language flared throughout the day, with McCann subsequently declaring that AFL arbiter W. D. Dougherty, former vice-president of the Letter Carriers' union, had "more brains in his feet than in his head."

McCann subsequently apologized to Dougherty.

Dougherty was today's principal witness, speaking also for W. B. Birthright and Felix Knight, his associates on the AFL committee which delivered the jurisdictional directive which ended the 1945 strike and precipitated the present one. The witness substantially reversed the position taken yesterday with respect to testimony by Screen Actors Guild officials that the committee had been subjected to pressure by William Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters union.

George Murphy, also of SAG, today reiterated testimony given yesterday by Edward Arnold and Ronald Reagan.

Padway was given the stand to outline the AFL general policy with respect to jurisdictional strikes.

Walsh to Testify in Coast Labor Inquiry

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, will fly to Hollywood Saturday, at the conclusion of the current "IA" executive board meeting in Boston, to testify in the House labor sub-committee hearings on the Coast jurisdictional strike.

His testimony is expected to be one of the highlights of the current hearings, at which it has been testified that rulings of a special American Federation of Labor committee were flouted by William Hutcheson, international president of the carpenters' union.

IATSE Board Hears Walsh and Levy

BOSTON, Aug. 19.—On the agenda of the semi-annual meeting of the IATSE, which opened at the Copley-Plaza Hotel yesterday were plans to discuss the effect of the Taft-Hartley act on the contracts of theatre employes and efforts to assure continuing friendly exchange of industry technicians between Britain and America. International president Richard F. Walsh of New York and the organization's special labor counsel, Frank P. Murdoch of Philadelphia and Judge Matthew M. Levy of New York addressed the union officials in a closed session.

SOPEG Talks Aug. 25

Representatives of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, CIO, and major film companies will meet here on Aug. 25 to begin negotiations on the union's request for a 30 per cent wage increase for more than 2,500 home office employes.

Review

"Fun and Fancy Free"

(Disney-RKO Radio)

INDISPUTABLY accurate is the label that identifies this latest Disney magic. Product of rich imagination and adroit execution, "Fun and Fancy Free" offers a musical score as delightful as its fairy tales are wonderfully absurd. Add to that the added box-office meaning it takes on with the physical appearance of Edgar Bergen, along with his wooden antagonist, Charley McCarthy, and, of course, Mortimer Snerd.

Technicolored flawlessly, the picture is divided into three parts, beginning with an amusingly whimsical introduction which has Jiminy Cricket (and Cliff Edwards) giving voice to the song of the title, and finding to his dismay that the characters about him are glum, he endeavors to bring joy to their existence with happy tales.

Part Two takes up from there as Jiminy Cricket spins a record and the voice of Dinah Shore recounts the story of Bongo, the little bear, who is held in captivity by ruthless circus bands, escapes, and joins the creatures of the forest. Bongo has a formidable adversary in Lumphaw Bear, finally vanquishing him in unique fashion, cartoon-like, of course.

The yarn completed, Jiminy Cricket lifts the curtain on another fanciful one as he finds an invitation to, and attends, Edgar Bergen's party. With Bergen are his two dependents and an attractive youngster, Luana Patten, the only other character on the screen providing her own animation.

Bergen narrates while the cartoonists illustrate a piece about Happy Valley and its inhabitants, farmers Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck and Goofy. Comes the giant from his castle and Happy Valley is gone, from the wind stirred up by his movements. Off all go in pursuit to rescue the beautiful Harp Lady—and all's well again. The nimble-witted sarcastic voice of McCarthy's interrupts Bergen's with some chucklesome gags during the course of the telling.

The full length of the film is embellished by the sparkling detail work of the artists.

"Lazy Country Side," "Too Good To Be True," "Oh, What a Happy Day" and "In My Favorite Dream" are the songs that make the picture a listening pleasure, as rendered by The Kings Men, The Dinning Sisters, The Starlighters and others. Miss Shore has one of the principal off-screen assignments.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

'Category' Pact

(*Continued from page 1*)

rejected the first proposals advanced by the others.

The provisions, representing an agreement on middle ground, include that all minimum scales established for day and weekly players are maintained in effect, but overtime pay for day players will not start until the 11th hour, nor for weekly players until the 55th hour. However, the eight-hour day and 48-hour week will be the basis.

Purpose of SAG concessions, it was said, which are expected to be approximated by other studio guilds and unions, is to encourage an increase in production by small independents, who have insisted that costs, general as well as labor, were forcing them out of business.

Levin Promotes Three

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19.—Irving M. Levin, district manager of San Francisco Theatres Inc., has assigned Norman K. Dorn, former assistant at the Alexandria Theatre, to the main office to assist Arthur Rosenbaum, public relations director. Keith Hawk, Balboa Theatre assistant, replaces Dorn at the Alexandria, with Ralph Nickelson assigned to the Balboa. Robert Kennedy, assistant at the Coliseum, has resigned to enter newspaper work on the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Union Bans Producer

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 19.—The Picture Production Workers Union placed a six-month ban on use of its personnel by Miguel Contreras Torres, producer, because he criticized the union in an interview in a local magazine.

World Wants U.S. Equipment: Gregg

A widespread demand for theatre and other types of U. S. equipment throughout the world was reported yesterday by Eugene S. Gregg, vice-president and general manager of the Westrex Corp. here, following a three-month global trip to Western Electric.

Gregg added, however, that currency controls and import restrictions are making it difficult for exhibitors, producers and others to buy equipment.

During his trip, Gregg attended the annual meeting of the International Chamber of Commerce at Montreux, Switzerland, as a U. S. delegate.

Owners to Aid UN

HARTFORD, Aug. 19.—Mayor Edward Allen has appointed the following theatremen to a Hartford United Nations Committee to aid local celebration of United Nations Week, beginning Sept. 14: Henry L. Needles, Hartford district manager for Warner Theatres; George E. Landers, district manager, E. M. Loew's Theatres; Lou Cohen, Loew's Poli manager, and William H. Mortensen, managing director of Bushnell Memorial.

New Aniline Executive

Directors of General Aniline and Film Corp. have elected Dr. Cary R. Wagner, scientist, as vice-president in charge of research and development. Dr. Wagner, who became a director last April, was also elected a member of the executive committee. Dr. Wagner will direct the coordination of the company's research and development activities in dyestuffs, photography, and sensitized materials.

First 'IA' Local to Set Hospital Plan

Pittsburgh, Aug. 19.—Local No. 171, projectionists, here, has become the first IATSE unit to adopt the new program of health, accident and hospitalization benefits for its members, through the Union Labor Life Insurance Co., which extends beyond "IA" life insurance, in force [illegible] years.

Double Pay for Joint Broadcasts: Petrillo

CHICAGO, Aug. 19.—James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians today ruled that members of the union cannot work simultaneously for standard radio stations and frequency modulation (FM) broadcasts unless they receive double pay for the one performance.

The union president announced the ruling in telegrams to the presidents of the four major radio networks in New York: Niles Trammel, National Broadcasting Co.; Edgar Kobak, Mutual Broadcasting System; Mark Woods, American Broadcasting Co., and Frank Stanton, Columbia Broadcasting System.

Emphasizing that amplitude modulation (AM) and FM are distinct systems, Petrillo declared that A. F. M. locals "are ready and willing to negotiate wage scales and conditions for FM broadcasting." He also asserted that while there are only 168 FM stations in operation today, as againt 1,320 AM stations, he expects that there will be "several thousand" FM stations in a year and half, "and I want to protect our members right from the start."

George Holland Dies

BOSTON, Aug. 19.—George Holland, 50, columnist for *The Boston Evening American* and former script writer for RKO Radio, Hollywood, died here yesterday. He also had written several plays, including "Pie in the Sky," "Don't Tell the Wife" and "Front Money." He is survived by the widow, the former Dorothy Nolan of Brookline; two daughters, Nancy and Janes; two sons, Peter and George, Jr.; a brother, Dr. Charles L. Holland, of Falmouth, and a sister, Mrs. James Murley, of Newton.

Martin Polcar, 87

CLEVELAND, Aug. 19.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Martin F. Polcar, 87, one of the first motion picture theatre owners in Cleveland. He first owned the American Theatre, in 1912. His sons, Martin F., Jr., and William M., and his son-in-law, Albert E. Ptak, are now co-owners of the Lyceum Theatre and are interested in the Drive-In Theatre in Parma.

Kay Names Talley

ATLANTA, Aug. 19.—Bill Talley, former Republic branch manager here, has been appointed branch manager of Kay's Charlotte office, succeeding the late Ed Heller.

BRIGHTER THAN A ROCKET BLAST !

The brilliant arc between two "National" High Intensity projector carbons is brighter — per unit of area — than the heart of a V-2 rocket blast.

This powerful man-made sunlight is harnessed in your projection booth. It is snow white, perfect for bringing out detail and full rich color on your screen. And yet, compared to other operating costs, the expense of "National" projector carbons is negligible.

When "National" projector carbons are used as the light source, you give your patrons the kind of vivid, easy-to-see pictures they really enjoy. You'll find that "National" projector carbons have a definite effect upon your box office.

For Perfection in Photography and Projection, Use the Carbon Arc

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More RKO Shorts

(*Continued from page* 1)

subject sales, with Eastern production of that company in the hands of Bonafield and his associates at the company's Park Avenue studio. The latter will produce the "This Is America" series, formerly made by Frederic Ullman, Jr., who has transferred to Hollywood for feature production.

In addition to a stepped-up program of entertainment shorts for RKO Radio release, RKO Pathe is preparing for an expansion of its commercial production department, Michalson disclosed at the luncheon. The latter unit will make at least 65 subjects—mostly shorts—for advertisers and other outside interests in 1947. The studio is also prepared to produce features at its Eastern plant, he added.

Some 80 per cent of the footage occupied by RKO Pathe at its Madison Ave. headquarters is being vacated for Warner Pathe News, most of the staff of the former being transferred to the studio.

Michalson revealed that 48 entertainment short subjects, involving 69 reels, will be made by RKO Pathe for next season. The 48, together with Walt Disney's shorts and the two-reel product being made at the West Coast, will give RKO Radio a total of 86 new subjects and 127 reels, according to Michalson.

In the 48 are included two new series currently in process of development and as yet untitled. They will consist of a group of six two-reelers and another of seven one-reelers.

The RKO Pathe studio will also produce 13 two-reel "This Is America" releases, two two-reel specials, seven "Flicker Flashbacks" and 13 "Sportscopes."

In addition to the 127 new reels, RKO Radio will have six re-releases of Disney cartoons in Technicolor, including "Little Hiawatha" and "Three Little Pigs," and a re-release of seven one-reel band subjects. This will bring the total short subjects to 140 reels, largest number which RKO Radio has had in years, Michalson said.

Stahl Heads Syndicate

Maurie Stahl, operator of the Rex and Rivoli in Rutherford, N. J., and the Regent in Kearney, is president of a new syndicate formed with Stillman and Stillman, theatrical attorneys. As the Normandy Theatre Corp. they will open the new Normandy Theatre in Miami Beach, about Dec. 1.

CLUE TO A HIT!
5
GREEN FOR DANGER
"You've got to buy a ticket . . all the know-how of creating suspense!"
—N.Y. Daily Mirror
THE SCREEN'S UNPARALLELED ADVENTURE IN SUSPENSE!

Reviews

"Magic Town"

(*Robert Riskin-RKO Radio*)

A NOVEL plot idea has been given adroitly humorous treatment in Robert Riskin's "Magic Town." The result is a film that is warm, human and believable, one that will cut a passage to the hearts of millions. If the lusty reception it received from a Manhattan audience at a "sneak" preview is any criterion, the film is well designed to keep grosses out of the doldrums. James Stewart and Jane Wyman as the principals, are names to bring contentment to any exhibitor's marquee.

Stewart, a poll expert, discovers a small town named Grandview, which, by a mathematical miracle, offers the perfect cross-section of the nation's thinking. Under the guise of an insurance agent, Stewart goes there to exploit the town, and meets and falls in love with Miss Wyman, a newspaper editor campaigning for civic improvements. Because any change might upset the town's delicate mathematical balance, the two don't see eye to eye on some things. Uncovering Stewart's secret purpose, Miss Wyman becomes incensed and prints the story. Over night the city zooms to national prominence with wild multitudes of schemers and publicity hunters converging on the "typical American town." Completely exploited, the boom town soon becomes a ghost town, a national joke, with its residents ashamed to poke their heads out of their houses. For, as Gabriel Heatter intones over a microphone, the town had lost its humility.

By this time Stewart had left for New York, with despondency following him. He returns to Grandview, and with a rallying effort, helped by Miss Wyman and a strategem, brings the people out of their hiding and starts the town moving forward again on a more solid foundation. Once again Heatter's inspirational voice in heard, this time extolling the town's will to progress. Stewart goes through his role with a casual air, while Miss Wyman in her delineation is relaxed, yet commanding.

Helping to make it a fresh and arresting film are the notable vignettes added by Kent Smith, Ned Sparks, Wallace Ford and Regis Toomey. A William Wellman production, Riskin produced and wrote the screenplay, from a story by himself and Joseph Krumgold. Wellman in his direction fitted the film with many unusual and amusing touches.

Running time, 103 minutes. General audience classification. Set for October.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

"Shoe Shine"

(*Lopert Films*)

NEW Italian films invariably invite comparison with "Open City." This would be particularly true in the case of "Shoe Shine," one of whose script writers is Sergio Amidei, who wrote the script for "Open City." But while the treatment of plot and characterization are in the familiar setting of Rome, "Shoe Shine" centers on another theme, the life of the Italian bootblacks of Rome after the Allied victory, and the squalor and brutality exhibited in a children's prison in that city. It is strong stuff, drawn with heavy realism, and lightened only by the vitality and appeal of the young actors. As a realistic drama, then, it should draw well in its own specialized groove, for it is done with skill, sincerity and excellent direction.

The pathetic story describes the adventures of two child bootblacks, played by Rinald Smordoni and Franco Interlenghi. Working instead of playing—because they must support themselves and Rinaldo's family—they concentrate their hopes on the purchase of a horse. Through Rinaldo's brother, they are drawn into a black market for stolen "GI" blankets. For a robbery, of which they are innocent, the two children are arrested and lodged in a filthy child's prison where war orphans, first offenders, and other victims of a war-smashed country are thrown together, to live miserably under brutal guards.

After various complications, including a misunderstanding between the two children, a court sentences them to jail. Rinaldo escapes with four other children during a particularly vivid scene of a newsreel showing in the prison, and he flees to the stable where the horse is kept. Enraged because he visualizes the theft of the horse, which they had bought jointly, Franco leads the police to the stable, and in the tragic climax, accidentally kills his friend.

Paolo W. Tamburella produced "Shoe Shine," which was directed by Vittorio De Sica. Script writers, in addition to Amidei, were Adolfo Franci, C. G. Viola and Cesare Zavattini. Alessandro Cicognini did the music, and Herman G. Weinberg wrote the English titles, some of which obviously miss the full flavor of the dialogue. The film will be distributed in this country by Lopert Films.

Running time, 93 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Aug. 27.

DAVID A. GORDON

Columbia Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the handling of "Down to Earth" and other top product, as well as an examination of the entire national sales picture.

Among those scheduled to attend are: Jack Cohn, executive vice-president; A. Schneider, vice-president and treasurer; N. B. Spingold, vice-president; Leo Jaffe, assistant treasurer; Rube Jackster, assistant sales manager; Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg and Irving Wormser, circuit sales executives; Maurice Grad, short subject sales manager; George Josephs, assistant to Montague; Joseph Freiberg, manager of sales accounting; H. C. Kaufman, manager of exchange operations; Seth Raisler, contract department; Vincent Borelli, assistant to circuit sales executives; Irving Sherman and Sydney Singerman, assistant managers of exchange operations.

Representatives from the field who will attend are: Nat Cohn, New York division manager; Jerome Safron, Western division manager; Sam Galanty, Mid-East; Carl Shalit, Central; B. C. Marcus, Midwest; I. H. Rogovin, New England; R. J. Ingram, Southeastern; J. B. Underwood, Southwestern; Harry Weiner, Southern New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, and B. J. Lourie, Chicago branch manager.

Short Subjects

"Treasure House"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

Combining enlightment with entertainment, "Treasure Island," latest in the This Is America series, explains the story of the Smithsonian Institute in its varied and far-flung scientific endeavors.

Built more than a century [illegible] by the bequest of a wealthy Englishman, James Smithson, the institute's steady growth is pictured. Besides being a collector of scientific information, the Smithsonian is also a collector of curiosities. Shown in the subject are such assorted items as whales, Lindberg's *Spirit of St. Louis*, and specimens from lost civilizations. Running time, 16 minutes.

"Is Everybody Listening?"

(*March of Time-20th Century-Fox*)

Radio is the subject of the cameras of March of Time in this quick, hehind-the-scenes look-see into broadcasting, and is the recipient of both brickbats and compliments.

At the start, the film points out that Americans are slow to change in their preference for radio performers, and that among the consistent favorites are Jack Benny, Bob Hope, Fibber McGee and Molly, Edgar Bergen and Walter Winchell. All of these personalities are caught in action.

Criticism of the standards of radio program content comes from columnist John Crosby and inventor Lee de Forest. On the other hand, it is pointed out that radio also offers symphony concerts, round-table discussions and such pioneers of new technique as Norman Corwin.

So-called "soap operas" are viewed at the "mike" with critical eye, but the full coverage of sports and of news is cited in balance. Running time, 18½ minutes.

Theatre Fire Injures 3

LORAIN, O., Aug. 19.—A fire in the Dreamland Theatre here injured three persons, two of them firemen, and destroyed the theatre yesterday. The theatre had not been opened when the fire began.

Another to Lippert

RODEO, Cal., Aug. 19.—Acquisition of the Rio Theatre here by Robert L. Lippert of Lippert Theatres, was made known this week.

Marvin Stahl Resigns

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19. — Marvin Stahl, Eagle-Lion producer, has resigned. He is retiring from the industry.

Video Lanes

(*Continued from page* 1)

for allocating experimental frequencies for theatre television research.

Larsen stated that he understood Warner Brothers had also written to the FCC along the same lines, but as yet, no letter has been received from them, FCC officials said.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Outstanding loop business this week was made by the Chicago, featuring "Cynthia" and Perry Como and Marion Hutton on stage. Grosses were generally good. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 18:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) — GRAND (1,150) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) — CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) On stage: Perry Como and- Marion Hutton. Gross: $88,000. (Average: $59,000)

FIESTA (M-G-M) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $25,500)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $30,000)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—PALACE (2,500) (95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE OTHER LOVE (U-A)—ORIENTAL (1,200) (95c). On stage: Marie McDonald and Clark Dennis. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $40,000)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $41,000. (Average: $17,500)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $12,000)

BOSTON

The heat wave broke slightly over the weekend to give box-offices a slight break. Business, however, continued slow. The Boston, with a stage show, is tops, and "Brute Force", holding a second week, also showed real activity. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 20:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) — BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10) Stage show: Carole Landis, Johnny Morgan. Gross: $37,500. (Average: $23,500)

DEEP VALLEY (WB) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox) — METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $26,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue — STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio) and THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.) — MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $27,000)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) and HEART ACHES (UA)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,500)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) and HEART ACHES (UA)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

PITTSBURGH

The heat wave continued to cut into box-office returns, but exceptions were noted. Top performance was by "Singapore," which ran $3,000 over average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 21:

CRY WOLF (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE EGG AND I (U-I)—FULTON (1,700 (40c-55c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,700)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) — PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the J. P. Harris. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,200)

TALL TIMBER (Crown) and BLACK STALLION (Crown)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,200)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Rain broke the heat wave here, and film business responded with several better-than-average grosses. "The Romance of Rosy Ridge" and "Tarzañ and the Huntress," were strong. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19-20:

CRY WOLF (WB) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

KIT CARSON (E-L reissue) and THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (E-L reissue)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,500)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and THE 13TH HOUR (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)

TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Averoge: $10,000)

THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I) and STEPCHILD (E-L)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

TORONTO

Business was in the doldrums because of an oppressive heat wave which led to the closing of some business establishments. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 22:

THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $11,400)

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,800)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $13,800)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)

THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,500)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. (Gross: $14,300. (Average: $14,300)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH (RKO Radio)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $6,800)

ATLANTA

The weather was mostly hot and rainy. "Welcome Stranger", in its sixth week, is still grossing well. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 20:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $21,500. (Average: $19,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-FOX) — DARA (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $7,600. (Average: $7,900)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,000)

KIT CARSON (E-L-Kay reissue) and THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS (E-L-Kay reissue)—ROXY (2,446) (25c-50c) . Gross: $6,100. (Average: $5,700)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—CAPITOL (2,447) (12c-50c) 5th week on a moveover from the PARAMOUNT. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,500)

Set 'Down to Earth'

Key engagements across the country have been arranged for "Down to Earth," it is announced by Columbia. The company is following the pattern used last year with "The Jolson Story," which opened at the Radio City Music Hall, here, and in San Francisco, Oakland, Buffalo, Cincinnati and several other key spots before being made available for general showing.

'Torment' to L. America

"Torment," Swedish film produced by the Svensk Filmindustri, will be distributed throughout the Latin-America territory by RKO Radio, it was announced by Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign operations.

Screen Guild-Herald Deal

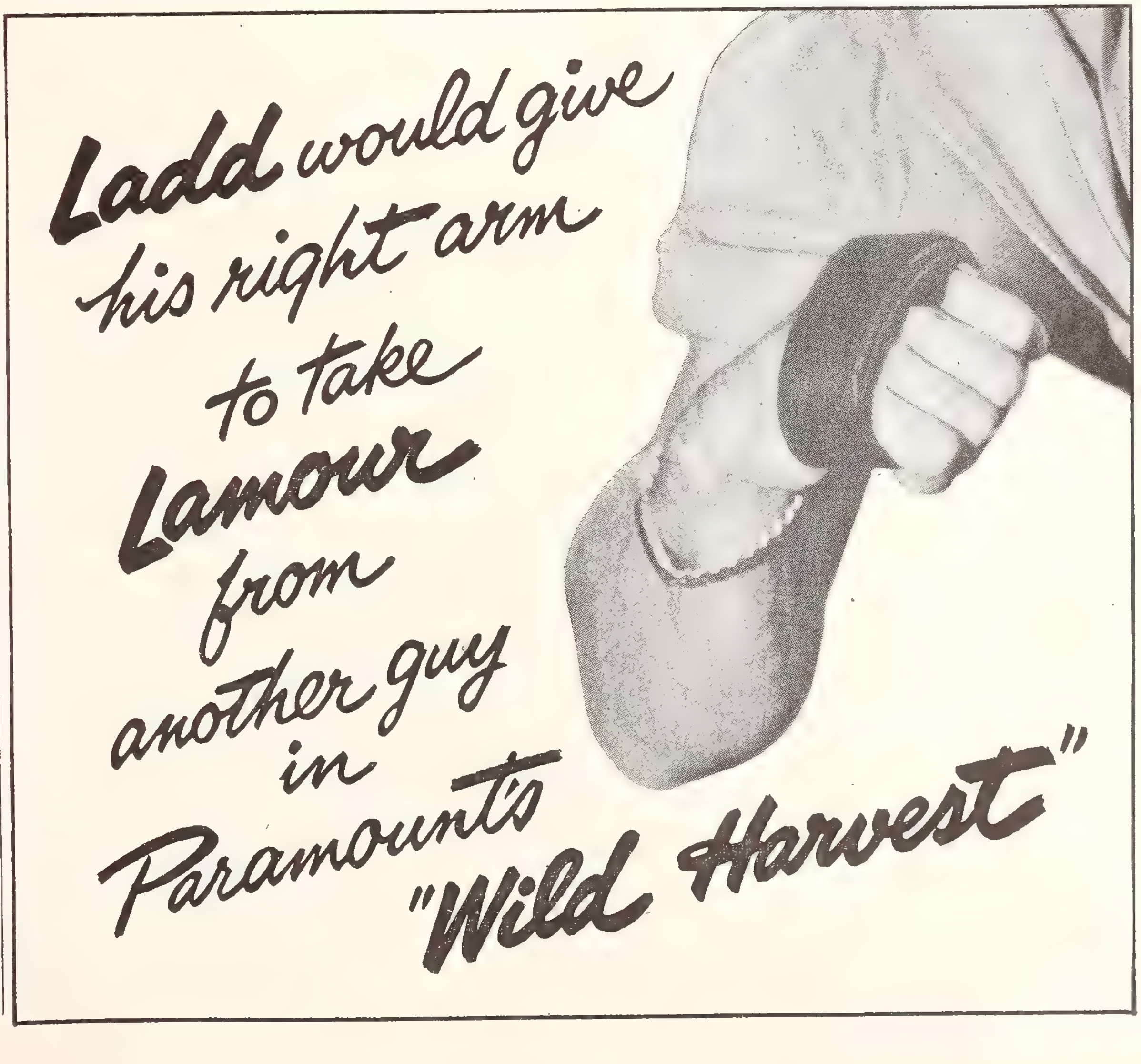
HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19. — John J. Jones, president of Screen Guild, has closed a deal with Herald Pictures, Inc., for world distribution of six Negro features annually.

'Passage' Shown Sept. 15

National tradeshowing of "Dark Passage" has been set by Warner Brothers for Monday, Sept. 15. The picture is scheduled for October release.

Harte Yarn to Sherman

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19. — Producer Harry Sherman has acquired rights tc Bret Harte's "Tennessee's Partner," and will make it as a $1,500,000 production for Enterprise release.



US Provides 60% of Britain's 'A' Films

Hollywood supplies Britain with about three-fifths of its "first feature" product with the balance provided by home studios, according to Sidney Box, head of J. Arthur Rank's Gainsborough Productions.

Box, who left New York for the Coast yesterday, accompanied by Earl St. John, Rank's production adviser, explained that each of Britain's three principal circuits: Odeon, Gaumont British (both controlled by Rank) and A. B. C. (Warners), plays one "A" picture per week, or a total of 156 a year. The British industry is producing at the rate of 60 to 65 top films annually, 30 to 35 by Rank companies. U. S. product fills the gap.

Box said that he and St. John are here "largely to learn at first-hand American reactions to our product." Both plan to "sit in with audiences where our product is playing," Box said.

Their Coast agenda includes a study of operations at the Universal-International studios and to work out details of contracts with Hollywood stars signed by Rank.

Uniform Quota

(*Continued from page* 1)

do so. Whether it so decides is, of course, another matter.

Under the charter completed at Geneva, quotas may be imposed on playing time to be accorded to imported films but no other restrictions are permitted. However, discriminations in favor of specific films now in effect may be continued. Thus, Australia and New Zealand preferences granted to British films and Czechoslovakian advantages given Russian films may continue.

However, new discriminations may not be imposed and primarily uniform quotas will exist, in contrast to the varied nationalistic restrictions which already exist and which otherwise could be further complicated in the future.

The charter's film clause, it is pointed out, is designed only to deal with quota legislation whose aim it is to protect home industry. It would have no application to a situation such as that presented by the present British tax of 75 per cent on imported films, which resulted from Britain's financial crisis.

WE Engineer Here

Dennis Smith, engineer at the Bombay office of the Western Electric Co., Ltd., subsidiary of the Westrex Corp. for the British Isles and India, is in New York to study modern American motion picture sound theatre and recording studio techniques.

Film Meet in Berlin

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. — The Soviet - sponsored film organization, DEFA, held a recent conference in Berlin to which representatives of all four German zones were invited, the War Department has announced. Pictures made by the four nations represented at the conference were shown.

MPA Drafting

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the State Department last week, was broached yesterday to the British financial delegation which is conferring there with this country's National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems.

The reports intimated that if the MPA protest actually had been discussed, nothing was learned of the nature of the talks.)

MPA foreign affairs adviser Allen W. Dulles was on hand for today's work, and it was believed that the MPA was also keeping in touch with industry legal adviser James F. Byrnes.

"We're getting ready to tell the British the things we're willing to do," an MPA official said, "and getting material to answer the questions we know they're going to ask."

He would go no further.

Meanwhile, MPA indicated that any consideration of the proposal for a meeting with the British Film Producers Association "is being held in abeyance," until the talks with the British delegates are completed.

There was no full-scale conference of the U. S. and British government officials on the loan agreement today, and it was indicated that numerous "technical discussions" were under way.

Meanwhile, there was a feeling that pressure was developing for another U. S. loan to Britain, although both Secretary of the Treasury Snyder and Sir Wilfred Eady, head of the British mission, said at the start of the talks yesterday that a new loan would not come up. However, it was believed among some sources that the way was being prepared for another loan "bite" to be put on Snyder when he goes to London next month.

See Other Threats of US Film Discrimination

International "chain reaction" to Britain's drastic tax imposition, anticipated by Eric Johnston and other film leaders here, has already expressed itself with definite threats of measures detrimental to the U. S. industry in Australia and Singapore.

The Australian Cabinet, taking cognizance of the fact that that country is on the short end of dollar exchanges with the U. S., has ordered a review of dollar expenditures for American films, tobacco and newsprint. This was disclosed here yesterday by Gerald Mayer, head of the Motion Picture Association's international division, who was informed by cable of the Australian Government's action by F. McN. Ackland, chairman and chief executive of the Motion Picture Distributors Association at Sydney.

Mayer also disclosed that the Governor General of Singapore, also within the sterling area, has expressed the opinion that in view of the gravity of the British economic situation, some measures must be taken to limit the outlay of dollars for U. S. films.

Disney Protest to Truman On British Tax Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19.—In a telegram to President Truman on the British tax developments Walt Disney set the pattern of appeal which independent producers of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers are advancing.

The telegram said in part: "As a plain citizen as well as a member of the industry affected, I must add my protest to the unfair singling out of a particular group which is asked to assume a burden far greater than rightfully belongs to it. . . ."

"The confiscatory tax would prohibit export, but the freezing of funds now anticipated from the British market would spell ruin for those who incurred heavy expenditures supplying that market . . .," he continued. "The American community is behind you and the Marshall plan. I respectfully suggest that it be implemented by a sacrifice of all and not just a part of our American economy."

SAG Asks UK Tax Change; Other Unions May Join Move

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 19.—Instructing its president, Emmett Lavery to telegraph representations to Secretary of State Marshall and Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, the Screen Writers Guild today swung support to the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers campaign for a change in the British tax by appealing to the State Department. Labor ranks, in general, are expected to follow suit, with musicians, laborers, plasterers, and the IATSE considering such action at meetings tonight.

Meanwhile, SIMPP's special British tax committee of which Gunther Lessing is chairman, boarded a plane tonight for New York to join James Mulvey and Milton Kramer in talks tomorrow with Undersecretary of State Lovett. In the party from the Coast, in addition to Lessing, are Marvin Ferris and Joseph Alvin.

Republic Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

E. Steinberg; Prairie district manager, and branch managers J. J. Houlihan, St. Louis; Jack Frackman, Milwaukee; E. H. Brauer, Indianapolis, and Robert F. Withers, Kansas City. Grainger will fly back here on Monday.

Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager and Western division manager, is now in Seattle closing his Western territorial meetings. En route he will meet with branch managers Harry Lefholtz, Omaha; Gene Gerbase, Denver; Thomas McMahon, Salt Lake City; George Mitchell, Portland, and their sales staffs. He will also return here on Monday, stopping off Saturday and Sunday in Minneapolis.

Walter L. Titus Jr., Southern division manager, will likewise return here on Monday, following a series of meetings at Atlanta and Charlotte with Southern district manager Merrit Davis, Southwestern district manager Norman J. Colquhoun; Cy Dillon, Charlotte branch manager; J. E. Hobbs, Atlanta manager; Leo V. Seicshnaydre, New Orleans manager: Nat Wyse, Memphis manager, and David Hunt, Oklahoma City manager, and their respective sales staffs.

Cancel DeMille Premiere

Proposed world premiere of Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered" in London on Sept. 17, and DeMille's trip there to attend the opening, have been cancelled, it was announced here yesterday by Paramount.

Warner Outing in Conn.

HARTFORD, Aug. 19.—Annual summer outing of this zone's Warner club was held today at the Racebrook Country Club, in Orange, Conn.

Shipments Up 70%

(*Continued from page* 1)

is given by export figures released today by Commerce Department film consultant Nathan D. Golden.

In the first six months of 1947, exports to Britain of 35mm. exposed or developed positive film totaled 7,159,488 feet, compared with 4,967,303 feet shipped in the first half of 1946. Shipments of 35mm. negative film went from 485,072 feet to 586,978. Exports of 16mm. negative and positive films also showed substantial gains.

The positive film totals do not include all prints of U. S. films used in England. Millions of additional feet of stock are used to make additional prints in the U. K.

The U. K. figures were typical of the sharp rise in exports of U. S. motion picture film and equipment in all parts of the world in the first half of 1947, compared with the first six months of 1946. Exports of all types of film, Golden reported, totaled 417,705,659 feet, valued at $8,010,154, during the 1947 six-month period, against 283,977,871 feet, valued at $5,632,208, in the same 1946 period.

Dollar value of exports of motion picture equipment, including cameras, projectors, sound equipment, arc lamps and screens, amounted to $7,764,717 this year, an increase of 155 per cent over the 1946 January-June total of $3,039,467.

A total of 17,522 motion picture projectors of all types were exported in the first half of 1947, compared with 4,406 shipped abroad in the same 1946 period. Motion picture sound reproducing equipment exports this year were almost double the 1946 figure, and a large gain was also recorded for shipments of sound recording equipment.

Raw stock exports increased 120,000,000 feet, going from 137,019,551 feet, valued at $1,972,376 in the first half of 1946, to 257,270,358 feet, valued at $3,748,890 this year. The largest gain in exports of this type was the 120 per cent increase recorded in the 35mm. positive film category.

Shipments of 35mm. positive feature films, exposed or developed, totaled 145,864,387 feet, valued at $3,748,568 in the first six months of 1947. In the same 1946 period, they totaled 138,265,554 feet, valued at $3,301,925.

Coast Asserts

(*Continued from page* 1)

retained on full pay, no blind rush to effect savings at the cost of production quality or volume is being made.

In New York, home office executives indicated that retrenchments and economies at the West Coast studios will be pressed on a much broader scale than that suggested by despatches from Hollywood, although they agreed that every effort would be made to maintain quality and volume.

It was stated that realignments of personnel and operations already have been ordered or effected extensively. One company executive said that studio changes already in work would effect savings for the company in excess of $10,000,000 annually, or approximately as much as it received from the British market last year.

The Universal-International statement issued by Nate J. Blumberg, president, on Monday said that "Changes in personnel and realignments of duties as necessitated by the increased efficiency plans have now been practically completed at the studio."

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US Concession On UK Loan May Aid Films

'Will Discuss Films This Week': Secretary Snyder

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20. — In a move of some significance insofar as the freeing of American film remittances by Britain is concerned, the United States tonight agreed to allow the British to suspend temporarily the free convertibility of the British pound into dollars in current trade transactions.

Secretary of the Treasury Snyder today said definitely that "motion pictures will be discussed in the course of the week" with the British financial mission, meeting here.

The suspension of the convertibility provisions, as agreed to by the U. S., will apply only to so-called "third party convertibility." Thus, U. S. firms getting pounds from Britain still will be able to convert them into dollars. Since the whole aim of Brit-

(Continued on page 7)

Tax, Freeze Equally 'Ruinous': SIMPP

WASHINGTON, Aug. 20.—Representatives of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers told the State Department today that a British remittance freeze would be just as ruinous for small film producers as would the Dalton tax.

A three-man committee, in an hour-long conference with Acting Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett, warned that the British action would drive many independents out of business, cause serious cutbacks in pro-

(Continued on page 7)

Sorrell Pressured AFL Unit, He Says

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20.—Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, today told the House labor subcommittee, which is conducting its inquiry here, that he, along with other interested parties, exerted pressure upon A. F. L. vice-presidents Felix Knight, W. D.

(Continued on page 4)

Can Fill Own Needs in 18 Months: Rank

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Aug. 20. — J. Arthur Rank said today that his production organization will be capable within 18 months of producing enough product to meet the requirements of both his Odeon and Gaumont British circuits here and his overseas theatres.

He emphasized that the productions would not be "quickies" but would be product comparable to anything his studios have thus far turned out.

A quick roundup of independent exhibitor opinion here, following Rank's statement, revealed some extreme indignation over Rank's alleged concern

(Continued on page 7)

Lantz Will Produce 12 for UA Release

Walter Lantz, who heretofore has released through Universal, is now engaged in full-scale production of an entire year's cartoons for release through United Artists, according to

(Continued on page 7)

ASCAP DRAFTS NEW LICENSE PROGRAM

Plans Music Tax Rises For Theatres Based On Their Earning Power

By GENE ARNEEL

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has in a final stage of development its new plan for increasing film theatre music-tax rates which would be commensurate with the earning power of a theatre.

The music performing right society's original intentions of consulting leaders of exhibitor organizations in an effort to establish an "equitable" formula for revising the entire theatre rate structure have been dropped in favor of approaching each circuit and individual theatre directly.

It is understood the new program will resemble one long since put into effect by Ascap's British counterpart, the Performing Right Society, Ltd., of London, under which each theatre's fee is determined by its seating capacity and price scale. Obvious variations would involve houses operating seasonally or on part time.

Adoption of the plan would put an end to Ascap's standard license form which requires houses seating up to 799 to pay 10 cents per seat annually; those seating from 800 to 1,599 to pay 15 cents per seat, and from 1,600 upwards, to pay 20 cents.

The organization's entire theatre tax program has been put in charge

(Continued on page 7)

File Building Code Program in Fall

A recommendation for a change in the New York State building code permitting candy stores adjacent to theatres to have entrances to theatre lobbies will be sent, with favorable comment, to the State Board of Standards and Appeals in Albany next month.

The recommendation will be one of a series to be made by John Coggeshall, State Labor Department code expert, here, after he has analyzed all papers filed during public hearings in June on proposed revisions of the building code. Theatre owners may voice considerable objection to the recommendations.

The new code will not be promulgated before the fall, according to present indications, and the board can select its own effective date.

Coggeshall recently received 25 pages of comments and suggestions, flowing from a series of hearings held here and in Albany, Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse.

It is understood that the recom-

(Continued on page 7)

Kelly Predicts Rank Pact, U.A. Production in U.K.

LONDON, Aug. 20.—Confidence that all outstanding differences between United Artists and J. Arthur Rank companies, including arrangements for playing time for U. A. pictures on the Rank circuits, will be resolved within a day or two, was expressed here today by Arthur W. Kelly, U. A. executive vice-president.

He also announced that U. A. would endeavor to complete arrangements for production here. Kelly already has conferred with Rank and will meet with him again soon.

He admitted there had been some discussion of a recent suggestion by Gradwell L. Sears, U. A. president, of the company entering into collective booking arrangements with a considerable number of independent exhibitors here but expressed the hope that such a course would be unnecessary in view of the favorable trend of his, Kelly's, talks with Rank.

U. A. has 18 picture unplayed here

(Continued on page 7)

Rathvon Asks End to Unnecessary Waste

Hollywood, Aug. 20. — N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, in an informal talk yesterday with studio department heads asked that steps be taken to eliminate waste and effect economies all along the line in consequence of the loss of the British market.

Rathvon expressed the hope that no salary or employment reductions would become necessary. He advised against scheduling any unnecessary location trips and other costly practices in planning future production. At the same time he warned against any steps that would threaten the quality of product.

Eagle-Lion Appoints Schussel, Wechsler

Appointments of Seymour Schussel as Eagle-Lion district sales manager for the New York metropolitan territory and of Lou Wechsler as New York branch manager were announced here yesterday by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Schussel was with Columbia for 14

(Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are reported on page 6.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH H. SEIDELMAN, Universal-International export head, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern district manager for Warners, was in Albany, N. Y. yesterday and will be in Gloversville, N. Y., today before returning here tomorrow.

•

Jack Warner, Jr., son of the Warner production vice-president, left Albany, N. Y., yesterday for New Haven where he will continue his study of theatre operations.

•

Claud Morris of the Selznick Releasing Organization here, left New York yesterday for Baltimore, and will leave on Monday for a three-week vacation in New Mexico.

•

Vincent O'Brien has been named manager of the newly-opened E. M. Loew's Hartford Drive-In, Newington, Conn., with Dan Finn as his assistant.

•

Stanley Meyer, vice-president and general manager of United Artists Theatre Circuit, will remain in New York for several months.

•

Frank N. Phelps, Warner Theatres executive, now on a trip through the New England territory, is due back here early next week.

•

Henry Koster is staying at the Essex House here before sailing for Europe on the *SS Queen Mary* on Aug. 27.

•

Lex Benton, president of Benton Bros. Film Express Co., is on a business trip to Jacksonville and Miami from Atlanta.

•

Jimmy Hobbs, Atlanta branch manager for Republic, and Merritt Davis, Southern district manager, are in Florida on business from Atlanta.

•

Steve Broidy, Monogram president, and Norton V. Ritchey, Monogram International president, have arrived in Paris from Amsterdam.

•

Jim McCarthy, manager of the Warner Strand, Hartford, has returned there from vacation.

•

Eddie Cantor has arrived here from Beverly Hills and is staying at the Waldorf-Astoria.

•

John Stephon, former film trade journalist, has been made film and drama editor of *The Irish Echo.*

•

C. Aubrey Smith, who arrived here Monday from England, will leave for the Coast today.

•

Mrs. Nate J. Blumberg left here for Hollywood yesterday.

•

Robert Benjamin has returned to New York from Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

ACCORDING to reports, Myrna Loy's work in "The Best Years of Our Lives" has pyramided her salary from an underpaid $150,000 to fair-to-middling $200,000 per picture.

What's $50,000 more or less to Hollywood? As Joe Skeptic says, "Twenty-seven fewer stenographers at $1,820 a year will take care of matters very nicely."

■ ■

Remarked an American film man to a British visitor after the latter had delayed regards and such from mutual friends in London: "Thanks a million. Less the 75 per cent tax, of course."

■ ■

If and when Floyd B. Odlum sells his controlling interest in the RKO corporate structure, it is understood he will retain about 300,000 shares of his total block of around 900,000 in the Atlas Corp. portfolio. If, thereafter, he should determine to dispose of part or all of the retained stock, he would do it in small blocks in order not to affect the new management, whatever it turns out to be.

■ ■

Homey and hitherto unsuspected note about Neil F. Agnew, whose prowess evidently extends into areas having nothing to do with selling film:

"We farmers live pretty close to the earth . . . like to get out into the open woods for a day's hunting and fishing or fence mending and come home to find a pot of 'brick oven beans' waiting in the oven."—From *The American Home,* September, issue, describing his kitchen at Kettletown Farms, near Southbury, Conn.

■ ■

Professional stance is never to be dismissed lightly. Who comes first in advertising and also on that main title is important business always—in Hollywood. Unable to determine the issue for the New York opening of "Life with Father," Bill Powell and Irene Dunne agreed to let a tossed coin decide. It did, and Powell won. To maintain the balance of power, however, Miss Dunne, who lost at this end wins at the other end of the line. In Los Angeles, she gets top billing.

Meanwhile, Warners, which merely produced the attraction, had to be prepared both ways.

■ ■

The night Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin decided Grad Sears was their man for the UA presidency, Sears wired Ned Depinet, "One of your boys made it."

He was hearkening back to those days in the mid '20s when he was in the field for the old First National outfit and Depinet was his boss in New York.

■ ■

Selznick Releasing Organization is keeping the door open to other than namesake product. But the company is being very aloof and decidedly selective in what it takes on which, to date, is nothing. SRO, once figuring 10 a year for an assured operation, will settle for five or six today. At the rate David O. makes them, it isn't happening.

■ ■

It looks as if the much-touted theatre survey of the Motion Picture Association lost considerable motion by asking exhibitors to divulge their business dealings with distributors, most of whom are MPA members. For instance, there was a reaching for data on the number of percentage pictures booked, etc.

That hot potato has been dropped now, but anyone at all tradewise could have told the researchers at the outset they were barging up an impassable road.

Macy's did tell Gimbel's in "Miracle on 34th Street," but look what a miracle that was!

■ ■

The industry's penchant for changing titles finally caught up with the fellows responsible for putting the switches over. Going from EPIC—Eastern Public Information Committee — to APDCMPA—Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association—the boys now know what it means.

■

On the slopes of Hollywood, some of the studio adv. and pub. men long have had their own ideas about public relations particularly geared to Hollywood. They can't be too happy now that their committee activities are confined to production. The Johnston organization says it will pick up in the larger sphere.

It's about time someone did. This industry enjoys wads of publicity, much of it bad, but painfully little by way of prestige-building public relations. There's quite a difference between the two.

Sees Films on 30% Of Video Programs

Hollywood, Aug. 20.—Motion pictures will constitute between 20 and 30 per cent of all television programs, and will play a relatively more necessary part in that field than do transcription programs in present-day radio, declared Warren R. Goldsmith in an address on "Hollywood and East Coast Television," delivered here this evening to the Society of Television Engineers.

Goldsmith, who is in television in New York, is the son of Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, Eastern radio and television consulting engineer. He told the Engineers Society that, "We must not underestimate the enterprise, sincerity and importance of Hollywood's own activities in furthering the development of television," pointing out that the Hollywood film industry is largely responsible for some major factors in the growth of television, citing the photographic, optical and film contributions of Hollywood.

Goldsmith reported 11 commercial and one experimental television stations are now operating in the U. S. with 55 FCC licenses granted to date and 10 applications pending. He predicted that East-West Coast telecasts will be available by 1950, by means of relays and coaxial cables. Some 3,000 miles of a New York-Los Angeles link have been completed, he added.

Brown Heads Sales For Nu-Screen Corp.

Lou Brown, veteran of 36 years in the theatre equipment business, has joined Nu-Screen Corp. as sales manager, it was announced here yesterday by Herman Gluckman, company president.

Brown started in 1911, booking and cutting for Kinemacolor. In World War I he served in the Army Photographic Division. Upon his discharge, he went with Joe Hornstein, New York equipment dealer, and later was with RCA Photophone, National Theatre Supply, served in the Army in World War II, and was last with Comprehensive Service Corp., handling 16mm. sales in this territory.

Kusell Reports Three SRO Appointments

John D. Keating has replaced Edward Salzberg as SRO sales representative in Cincinnati and Amos Leonard has replaced Ellis Shafton as sales representative in St. Louis, Milton S. Kusell, SRO vice-president, announced here yesterday. At the same time Kusell disclosed that Mervyn Goldstone has been named booker and sales representative for SRO in Toronto.

2 Columbia Dividends

Directors of Columbia Pictures Corp. yesterday declared on its common stock a dividend of 50 cents per share usually declared at this time and the same additional dividend of 50 cents per share which was declared last year, payable on Sept. 24 to stockholders of record Sept. 9.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten; 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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HOWARD LINDSAY & RUSSEL CROUSE · Directed by MICHAEL CURTIZ · Produced by ROBERT BUCKNE

From Oscar Serlin's Stage Production • Screen Play by Donald Ogden Stewart • Music by Max Steiner

Slight Drop in Coast Filming As 11 Finish

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—Production has fallen off slightly again with 11 films sent to cuting rooms and only eight starting, making 35 pictures shooting, against 39 in the previous week. Not a camera was turning on the sound stages of Warners.

The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Glamour Girl", with Gene Krupa's Band, Susan Reed, Michael Duane and Jimmy Lloyd. "Rose of Santa Rosa", with Eduardo Noriega, The Hoosier Hotshots.

Finished: "Mating of Millie", "Tex Granger".

Shooting: "The Sign of the Ram", "The Black Arrow," "In a Little Spanish Town," "Blondie's Anniversary."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "T-Man", "Northwest Stampede".

M-G-M

Started: "Luxury Liner", with George Brent, Frances Gifford, Jane Powell, Lauritz Melchior, Marina Koshetz, Tom Breen.

Finished: "Virtuous".

Shooting: "On an Island with You". "The High Wall".

Monogram

Shooting: "Rocky".

Paramount

Finished: "Night Has a Thousand Eyes".

Shooting: "The Paleface", "My Own True Love".

Republic

Started: "Outlaws of Ghost Town", with Alan (Rocky) Lane, Bob Steele, Linda Johnson, Eddie Waller, Gregory Marshall, Phil Ford.

Shooting: "The Red Pony", "The Gay Ranchero".

RKO Radio

Started: "Rachel", with Loretta Young, William Holden, Robert Mitchum, Gary Gray.

Shooting: "I Remember Mama", "Your Red Wagon", "Roughshod", "Station West", "Good Sam", "Under Arizona Skies", "That's Life" (Goldwyn).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie".

Screen Guild

Finished: "The Prairie".

20th-Fox

Finished: "Daisy Kenyon".

Shooting: "Gentleman's Agreement", "The Snake Pit", "Green Grass of Wyoming".

United Artists

Started: Untitled Hopalong Cassidy, with William Boyd, Andy Clyde, Rand Brooks, Elaine Riley.

Finished: "Time of Your Life" (Cagney).

Universal-International

Finished: "The Senator Was Indiscreet", "Tap Roots".

Shooting: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "Moral Coils", "A Double Life".

Warners

Finished: "That Hagen Girl", "Ever The Beginning".

Independents

Started: "The Tender Years" (Alson Productions), with Joe E. Brown, Richard Lyon, Josephine Hutchinson, Noreen Nash, James Millican, Griff Barnett. "War Party" (Argosy), with Henry Fonda, Shirley Temple, John Wayne, George O'Brien, Ward Bond, Victor McLaglen, Irene Rich, Guy Kibbee, Dick Foran, Grant Withers.

Coast SPG Signs Pact Extension

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—The Screen Publicists Guild, availing themselves of the offer for one-year contract extensions, today followed the action of other studio unions and signed an extension with producers. Purpose of the move is to continue the status of collective bargaining contracts before the Taft-Hartley Law goes into effect Friday.

Similar to extensions signed by other unions here, the SPG pact, in addition, contains a special clause authorizing producers to cancel it if the guild, which recently withdrew its affiliation with the Conference of Studio Unions while retaining its tie with the painters' union, makes any other affiliation regarded as undesirable by producers.

The teamsters' union is expected to sign a contract extension tomorrow. Unit managers' and assistant directors' locals, only other unions to be offered an extension, probably will not sign, according to officials of those locals who feel that the contracts, which run until next March, do not require an extension.

4 Paramount Drive Meetings on Coast

SEATTLE, Aug. 20.—Plans for Paramount's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive on the West Coast were inaugurated here today with the first of a series of four meetings to be held in branch cities. George Smith, Western division manager, is attending the two-day meeting, which will be followed by sessions in Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Harold Wirthwein, assistant West Coast district manager and captain of the drive, will conduct all four meetings, with Hugh Braly, district manager.

N. T. Fall Drive to Be Launched Today

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20.—Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, will launch the circuit's 12th annual fall drive at a meeting at headquarters here tomorrow. George Bowser, general manager of Fox West Coast, and Dick Dickson, representing the Southern California division, will also address the meeting.

Skouras conducted a similar ceremony in San Francisco yesterday.

WB Changes Screening

National exhibitor tradeshowings of Warner's "Dark Passage," originally set for Monday, Sept. 15, have been changed to Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Park Shootin' Irons Outside, Pardner

Los Angeles, Aug. 20.—Today's session of the House labor subcommittee hearings was enlivened when Carroll B. Kearns, chairman, announced that he had been informed that some persons present were carrying firearms. Kearns said that if this were true he hoped they would park them outside, so that he would not be required to have everybody searched.

RCA's Harbord, 81, Dies at Rye, N. Y.

James Guthrie Harbord, (Lt. Gen., USA, Ret.), former president and chairman of the board of RCA, died yesterday morning after a brief illness at his home in Rye, N. Y. He was 81 years old.

Harbord, because of failing health, recently requested retirement as chairman of the RCA board and on July 11 he was named honorary chairman and continued as a board member.

Joining RCA on Jan. 1, 1923, Harbord served as president of the corporation until 1930 when he was elected board chairman.

Funeral services will be held here tomorrow at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York. Military services will be held on the same day in the Fort Myer, Va. Chapel, and burial with military honors will follow in Arlington Cemetery.

J.I. English, Canadian Odeon Architect, Dies

TORONTO, Aug. 20.—Jay I. English, 45, chief staff architect of the Odeon Theatres of Canada, Ltd., drowned when his canoe upset in a lake near Gravenhurst, 100 miles north of Toronto.

English had specialized in theatre architecture and was first associated with Famous Players Canadian Corp. until he joined the late N. L. Nathason in Canadian Odeon in 1941. His latest theatre, the Fairlawn, Toronto, opened last Friday. At the time of his death he was engaged in the construction of 19 Odeon projects in Canada.

W. D. MacNamara, 79

William D. MacNamara, 79, died here on Tuesday at his home in Jackson Heights. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, and son, Paul, who is advertising-publicity director of Selznick Studios and the Selznick Releasing Organization, who came by plane from Hollywood to attend the funeral. Mass will be said tomorrow at St. Joan of Arc Church, Jackson Heights. Burial will be in Fulton, N. Y., where MacNamara was born on July 20, 1868.

RCA-UE Sign Contract

RCA Victor division of the Radio Corp. of America and the United Electrical and Radio Machine Workers of America, CIO, have signed a two-year agreement, their first joint contract on a national basis. The agreement, which provides for a general wage increase of five cents an hour, covers approximately 11,000 employes, including those at RCA Victor plants in Hollywood and Camden.

Sorrell Pressured

(*Continued from page* 1)

Dougherty and W. B. Birthright when, as a committee, they drew up the 1945 jurisdictional directive.

He identified other sources of pressure as "probably" also William Hutcheson, head of the carpenters' union, who was seeking award of the disputed set erection jobs to the carpenters, while the Screen Actors Guild group also present at the A. F. L. convention, Sorrell said, were applying pressure to have the [illegible] assigned to IATSE.

Ronald Reagan, Edward Arnold and Pat Somerset were on the stand again today to reiterate their previous testimony to the contrary, and again declared that Hutcheson is the "stumbling block in the way of labor peace." They quoted A. F. L. president William Green and teamsters' president Dan Tobin to the same effect.

Subcommittee chairman Carroll D. Kearns, asserting that the producers' side of the controversy had been pretty well covered, has scheduled a tour of the M-G-M studio tomorrow morning "to prepare myself for consideration of labor's side." The subcommittee will be accompanied by two representatives from each disputant union and producers, and will attempt to cover the same ground covered by the A. F. L. directive-drafters in their investigation when drawing up their ruling.

SAG Members Back AMPP, SIMPP Pacts

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 20.—Membership of the Screen Actors Guild has approved, by a vote of 3,676 to 78, the one-year contracts entered into with the Association of Motion Picture Producers and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers. SAG members, in the same ballot conducted by mail, backed the guild's ruling to prohibit members from working for any producer who has not signed by midnight tomorrow. The vote was 3,611 to 173.

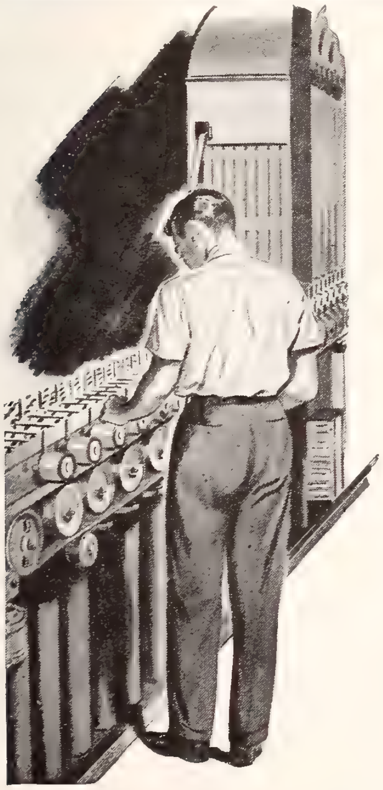
Although SAG now has contracts with AMPP, SIMPP and the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, each individual producer is required to have a signed contract by the Taft-Hartley Law deadline. SAG field men report virtually all producers have signed.

'IA' Newsreel Contract

International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry, Locals No. 644 here, No. 666 in Chicago, and No. 659 in Hollywood, expect an answer today to their request for a one-year extension of the closed shop contract feature for some 100 newsreel men. Negotiations took place yesterday at the office here of Pat Casey. Failing the extension, which is permitted under the Taft-Hartley law, the closed shop provision would be legally banned.

Pathe-'IA' Talks

Seeking to reach an agreement before the Federal Taft-Hartley Act goes into effect tomorrow, representatives of Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, will meet here again today with Pathe Laboratory officials in contract talks for 40 employes. The employes were recently organized, and negotiations have been in progress for more than two months. A session was held here yesterday.



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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer," highlighting a generally improved state of business following a reprieve from the heat wave, was top drawer among the newcomers. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 20:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $19,800)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $33,000. (Average: $20,800)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,200)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,400)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $18,200)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,500)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,900)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $18,100)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,300)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and DARK DELUSION (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $22,600)

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $26,600)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $16,100)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,100)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,500)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,200)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $28,600)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,200)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,100)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,800)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,800)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and THE BIG FIX (E-L)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,900)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,200)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $9,600)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,100)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and THE BIG FIX (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,800)

DENVER

With nice weather luring crowds outdoors, grosses were slow for the most part. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 19:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) and MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) day and date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) and MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Day and date with the Esquire. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—ALADDIN (1,400) (advanced prices: 74c-$1.20). Following two weeks each at the Paramount and the Esquire. Gross: $8,000. (Average at regular prices of 35c-74c: $3,000)

IVY (U-I) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Day and date with the Webber. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)

IVY (U-I) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day and date with the Denver. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). Following a week at the Denver, the Webber and the Aladdin. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)

LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.) and ACCOMPLICE (E-L)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and THE LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $14,500)

YANK IN LONDON (20th-Fox) and WILD WEST (E-L)—BROADWAY (1,500) (35c-74c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,500)

SAN FRANCISCO

With the relief of cooler weather, business is generally holding up well. "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" drew $38,000 in its first week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 20:

THE ADVENTURESS (E-L)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c). With vaudeville. Gross: $34,300. (Average: $20,000)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $23,000)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $9,000)

FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (55c-85c) 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

RED STALLION (E-L) and THE PRETENDER (Rep.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c). Gross: $18,00. (Average: $19,500)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and BRINGING UP FATHER (Mono.)—FOX (4,651) (65c-85c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $23,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Welcome Stranger" drew $61,500, which almost breaks house records at the Mastbaum and is particularly spectacular for the summer season. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 18-20:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gros: $15,000. (Average: $9,500)

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $12,700)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,000)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $6,600)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $20,400. (Average: $24,000)

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,200)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $31,700)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $25,000)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $13,800)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $21,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $61,500. (Average: $29,500)

ST. LOUIS

Grosses were generally fair in a week of continued hot weather. "Frankenstein" and "Dracula" on a reissue drew well. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 20:

CRY WOLF (WB) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,500)

FRANKENSTEIN (U-I-reissue) and DRACULA (U-I reissue)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,250)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from two weeks at Loew's State. Gloss: $9,000. (Average: $8,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and HONEYMOON (RKO Radio)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week of a moveover from the Fox and the Ambassador. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,500)

PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and THREE ON A TICKET (E-L)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50s-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,500)

CLEVELAND

Grosses were generally fair. "Brute Force" had the highest take, some $24,500. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 19:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $15,500)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $18,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $3,250)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $14,600. (Average: $12,000)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500)

BUFFALO

Grosses perked up as the city had a respite from the heat. "Gone With the Wind" led in a successful return at popular prices. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 23:

CRY WOLF (WB) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $19,300. (Average: $19,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.) and THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,200. (Average: $15,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $20,800. (Average: $18,000)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio) and BANJO (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $16,000)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE [illegible]-M) and BIG TOWN (Para.)—TEC[illegible] (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)

OMAHA

First-runs enjoyed their best business in months, with all doing better than average. Weather continued hot. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 21:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $14,100. (Average: $10,600)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and CODE OF THE WEST (RKO Radio)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week for "I Wonder" on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $8,500)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $7,300. (Average: $6,600)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (55c-80c). With a stage show. Gross: $21,100. (Average: $19,800)

KANSAS CITY

Business generally good. Heavy rains finally broke the heat wave. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 19-21:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue) — MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,100. (Average: $1,750)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $11,250. (Average: $9,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000)

SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Rep.) and SADDLE PALS (Rep.) — ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Grosses were uneven. "Possessed" led the field with $16,000 at the State. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 21:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,500)

DISHONORED LADY (UA)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the State. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $5,600)

THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $18,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE WEB (U-I)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 5th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,300)

WESTERN UNION (20th-Fox reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,400)

'Variety Girl' in N. C.

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 20.—The Carolina premiere of "Variety Girl" will be held at the Carolina theatre on Aug. 29 under the auspices of the Charlotte Variety Club, Tent No. 24.

Kelly-Rank

(*Continued from page 1*)

and Kelly's mission not only embraces playoffs for those but for the company's future product, as well. Kelly is not unmindful of the tactical value of the comparatively large U. A. product backlog here in the event the Dalton film tax should continue indefinitely and with it the embargo on American film shipments to Britain.

Kelly denied there is any discriminatory motive in U. A.'s failure to release Rank's "Fanny by Gaslight" in America, claiming that the delay was due solely to the lack of restrictions on early James Mason pictures which, U. A. felt, jeopardized the market for them.

Kelly said the Dalton film tax plays havoc particularly with Hollywood independent producers. That becomes a contributing reason for the company's desire to establish a $5,000,000 production financing pool to which its approved producers will have access, obviating the need for their going to banks for secondary financing.

Contending that U. A.'s policy always aimed at Anglo-American reciprocity, Kelly said he envisaged large-scale production here, commencing with Eric Baume's novel, "Half-Caste." Studio space is now in process of negotiation, he said.

Kelly reported that several U. A. producers are anxious to work here, including Hunt Stromberg, with his "Return of the Native"; Mary Pickford, with "Sorrell and Son," and Edward Small, with "Lorna Doone."

He said he regretted that British producers for the most part had been reluctant heretofore to join U. A. in production here on a 50-50 basis. He pointed out that rentals from British productions would be of help to both Britain and America if the present tax situation continues. Kelly said he hoped to be able to negotiate studio space accordingly. He said two subjects, "The Brass Monkey," starring Carole Landis, and "Just William" will be completed by the year-end at Alfred Shipman's studio.

These will fulfill U. A.'s quota obligations but also are a token of U. A.'s sincerity about producing in Britain, Kelly said.

US Concession

(*Continued from page 1*)

ish fiscal policy today is to conserve dollars, it is believed unlikely that it will free any large amount of convertible pounds to film companies, but could encourage a compromise.

However, "third-party" countries, all those outside the U. S.-British Loan Agreement, would not be able to get dollars for their pounds. Presumably, this relief might conserve enough dollars to permit Britain to consider some compromise on the film tax situation.

In return for the U. S. concession, the British agreed to make no further withdrawals on her $3,750,000,000 loan, which is now down to a balance of $850,000,000.

An exchange of letters between Secretary Snyder and Chancellor of the Exchequer Dalton made it plain that the steps agreed on today were intended to remain in effect only until completion of the negotiations now going on here to get British finances back on a stable basis.

Tax, Freeze

(*Continued from page 1*)

duction, and create widespread unemployment within the industry.

The SIMPP delegation will take its protest to Secretary of the Treasury Snyder tomorrow. After the conference with Lovett today, they discussed details of the situation with other State Department officials.

The SIMPP delegation told Lovett that the independent producers were completely sympathetic with the plight of the British, but felt that the *ad valorem* tax singled out the motion picture industry and was "highly unfair and discriminatory."

Gunther R. Lessing, vice-president of Walt Disney Productions; Milton Kramer, representing David O. Selznick; James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, and Marvin I. Faris, executive assistant to Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, comprise the committee.

Lovett was told that either the tax or freeze would ruin independents, who made large investments of borrowed funds in expectation of normal returns from the British market. They did this, the committee said, in reliance on the provisions of existing Anglo-American trade agreements, and contended that either a tax or freeze would be a clear violation of both the letter and the spirit of all existing pacts.

It is understood that one of the points brought out by the committee was that SIMPP is opposed to any negotiations on the tax between any portion of the U. S. industry and the British industry or British Government. They feel, they said, that the matter is one strictly for governmental dealings.

Meanwhile, Motion Picture Association officials said they had not yet heard from Sir Wilfrid Eady, head of the British trade delegation, although Sir Wilfrid reiterated at a press conference today his intention of meeting with the MPA, and said he had instructed one of his assistants to contact Joyce O'Hara to arrange a mutually agreeable time.

Rank Can Fill

(*Continued from page 1*)

for his operations only and in his claim that producers need his theatres and his admission that he is unable to take care of independent theatres' needs.

Many declared this to be further evidence that the industry must press the government through audience pressure to reverse itself on the 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty on imported films or negotiate another alternative with Washington.

Rank said that concern over rising production costs, rather than the imposition of the Dalton film tax, decided him on ordering a close examination of production budgets and rigorous control of studio expenditures. Admitting that he will limit production budgets to $1,000,000, Rank said nevertheless every picture will be treated according to individual merit and peculiar demands.

Rank said he is convinced the American industry will not adopt retaliatory measures against him because of the Attlee government's tax action. He expressed satisfaction with his current receipts from American distribution, stating that "The returns are growing weekly. My arrangements with the five big American companies are being honored to the full. Their sincerity is unquestioned."

Rank has authorized production of 20 low-budget comedies at his small Highbury studios, which are designed primarily as a training ground for promising directors, technicians and actors. The first subject, "Colonel Bogey," has just been completed on a six weeks' schedule at approximately only $80,000. It was emphasized that the pictures are completely lacking in star values.

Building Code

(*Continued from page 1*)

mendations, in general, will not entail any widespread theatre changes, but will consist primarily of some adjustments to present conditions. However, special rules, it is further understood, will be developed for drive-in theatres.

At the hearings, Philip Harling, attorney representing the Fabian-Hellman drive-ins, contended that the proposed code was impractical for drive-ins, and that, therefore, the drive-ins should be excepted.

Ascap Program

(*Continued from page 1*)

of Herman Greenberg, one of four "lieutenants" supervising the operations of Ascap under a managing committee and the directorate since the death of John G. Paine, general manager.

The job of revamping Ascap's theatre rates had originally been placed in the hands of Richard Murray, Ascap official, following the death of John Paine, but a recent board meeting, however, elected to have Greenberg take over following reported dissatisfaction with the progress made by Murray on the theatre tax increase plan.

It is learned that foreign music societies channeling their repertoires through Ascap in the U. S. convinced Deems Taylor, Ascap president, and other Ascap officials attending the recent international convention in London, that the film industry here is not as large a revenue source as it should be.

Ascap intends to put its new rates into effect in the near future, according to present indications. A majority of its contracts with theatres come up for renewal during November and December.

Meanwhile, the organization's directorate is still looking for a general manager to coordinate the work of the four "lieutenants."

Lantz to Produce 12

(*Continued from page 1*)

word received here yesterday by UA from Hollywood.

The producer has 12 in work, six of which are currently in production. Filmed in Technicolor, the Lantz "Cartunes" will be delivered at the rate of one a month, starting about mid-September.

Lantz's program consists of five "Woody Woodpecker" cartoons, four "Musical Miniatures" and three "Andy Panda" cartoons.

Transfer of Lantz personnel and equipment from the Universal lot to the Screen Gems Building in Hollywood is now under way. William Garity has been added to the staff as Lantz' assistant to supervise the technical end of production. Garity, a sound engineer, was for many years production manager for Walt Disney.

E-L Appoints

(*Continued from page 1*)

years and later became New York branch manager and then Eastern district manager for Film Classics. He resigned last November to become New York district manager for Producers Releasing Corp.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
July 20	PACIFIC ADVENTURE Lon Randall Muriel Steinbeck D—80 min.	GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754) (Rev. 8/1/47)	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D- 98 min. (726) (Rev. 5/20/47)	THUNDERBOLT (Documentary)	I COVER BIG TOWN Philip Reed Hillary Brooke D—63 min. (4624) (2/27/47)	SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) (Rev. 7/31/47) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(July Releases) MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)		(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (618) (Rev. 6/2/47)	POSSESSED Joan Crawford Van Heflin D—108 min. (624) (Rev. 5/29/47)
July 27		CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (727) (Rev. 6/12/47)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min. (617) (Rev. 8/4/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)	(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.		(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (723) (Rev. 11/3/38)	NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)		WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (618) (Rev. 7/28/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (619) (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.	RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)		FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min.	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.		CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min. (Rev. 8/18/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)			(Aug. Releases)	
Aug. 24		RAILROADED John Ireland D	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL Monte Hale O—64 min.	(Block 1: 47-48)	(Sept. Releases)		BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)			(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)			SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)		SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (Rev. 7/30/47) LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D		(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D			THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)		
Sept. 14		OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	THAT GUY PALOOKA Leon Errol Elyse Knox C			UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens		THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	DUSTY TRAIL O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 10/29/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	
Sept. 28							CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (Rev.10/20/41)			

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.*]

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 38 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

Golden State Circuit Sold To M. Naify

104 Theatres Involved In $10,000,000 Deal

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 21. — In one of the biggest theatre deals in years, Michael Naify, owner of T. and D. Enterprises and partner in Golden State Theatres, has acquired full ownership of Golden State in a deal involving $10,000,000 and 104 theatres.

The deal was a complete surprise to theatre men here, who understood that Robert Lippert of Lippert Theatres, who has been expanding his own circuit, and Milton Reynolds, multi-millionaire pen manufacturer, would purchase Golden State in a bid that was last reported to be in excess of $15,000,000.

Through the deal Naify acquires the interests of his two partners, Eugene

(*Continued on page* 5)

20th-Fox Net Is $8,401,778

Twentieth Century-Fox Corp. and subsidiaries, including National Theatres and Roxy Theatre, Inc., yesterday reported a net profit of $8,401,778, after all charges, for the 26 weeks ended June 28. After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stocks, net amounted to $2.91 per share on the 2,768,263 shares of common outstanding.

Consolidated net profit for the comparable 26 weeks of 1946 was $11,449,449, which, after deducting preferred dividends, amounted to $4.33 a share on the 2,534,895 shares of common then outstanding.

For the second quarter, ended June

(*Continued on page* 6)

U-I to Move Coast Ad Unit to New York

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Universal-International will transfer its national advertising and press book departments from the studio to New York for closer coordination with the home office sales department under the company's new method of film selling in-

(*Continued on page* 6)

'IA' to File As Anti-Red

BOSTON, Aug. 21.—The IATSE executive board voted unanimously today to file in Washington anti-Communist affidavits of its officers, copies of its by-laws and regulations, and financial reports of its affairs, in compliance with the new Taft-Hartley law.

The board, which is holding a regular mid-summer session at the Copley Plaza Hotel, here, all week, hit

(*Continued on page* 5)

ASCAP ASKS 300% MUSIC TAX BOOST

Wants Sum Equal to One Capacity Performance; Dating Licenses Oct. 1

Representing a minimum increase of 300 per cent over present music taxes, the nation's theatres will be asked by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers to pay the dollar equivalent of a capacity performance at evening adult admission scales for a one year music performing rights license, Ascap announced here yesterday.

The Society said the new licenses will be presented to theatres between Oct. 1 and Jan. 1, as their present agreements expire.

Under the Ascap plan, a 500-seat theatre charging an evening adult admission price of 40 cents, which now pays $50 annually to Ascap, will be required to pay $200.

Ascap's present licensing fees, inaugurated in 1934, provide for an annual payment of 10 cents per seat for theatres up to 799-seat capacity; 15 cents for those from 800 to 1,599 seats, and 20 cents per seat thereafter.

Thus, theatres like Radio City Mu-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Taft Law Sections In Effect Today

Washington, Aug. 21.—Whole new chunks of the Taft-Hartley law go into effect at midnight tonight, 60 days after the Senate overrode President's Truman's veto.

LET'S GET GOING . . *An Editorial*

By MARTIN QUIGLEY

IN THE aftermath of the British tax scheme for American motion pictures there has arisen a crop of anxieties and apprehensions in executive circles in the American industry which urgently calls for serious study and sober reflection.

In the first place, some drastic and radical action should have been anticipated from a government in which free play is given to the Leftish economic notions of such persons as Sir Stafford Cripps. Next, recent months have given clear evidence of a designed plan on the part of the British government to use the American film as a pawn in its dealings with the United States Treasury Department.

The obviously nurtured and directed press campaign in Britain, which in no way reflected the thought of the British public, was a telltale. The British government, for good measure, was encouraged with the idea that in any case it would be useful to their purposes to get rid of the foreign film. Socialist governments, no matter what they start out to control, eventually get around to controlling, or seeking to control, communications. In the American industry there should have been more preparation for and less surprise in the British action.

But post-war Britain has arrived at no settled policies or procedures, economic or otherwise. It has been living desperately under a patchwork of experiment and expediency. The film tax is ample proof of this—a measure which can provide no conceivable benefits to anyone. It can only be applied at the cost of ruining the British theatre business. With this law on the books the British production industry faces early and complete ruination. Politically the measure is suicidal, leading as it inevitably would in the direction of economic isolation—and that for Britain which, in a greater degree than any other great nation, is dependent for its existence upon export trade.

SHOCKING as the character of the measure may be, the great damage that it could do would be to Britain rather than to the United States. But the final chapter of this story has not been written. There is little doubt that the tax scheme will be materially changed before it becomes substantially effective. The change to be made, however, should not be on a basis of compromise, expe-

(*Continued on page* 2)

SIMPP's Protest On UK Tax to US

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Representatives of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers today asked Secretary of the Treasury Snyder to appoint a special sub-committee of the National Advisory Council to deal with the British on the *ad valorem* film problem, and suggested that SIMPP president Donald Nelson and Motion Picture Association president

(*Continued on page* 6)

Dunn, Bellman Head E-L Circuit Sales

Harold Dunn, domestic and foreign distribution executive, has been named circuit sales manager of Eagle-Lion Films by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. At the same time, Schwalberg also announced the appointment of Jack Bell-

(*Continued on page* 6)

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, is in Los Angeles before touring the Pacific and Southwest territories, while Roy Haines, Western division sales manager, is in Chicago.

•

Lester Coleman, assistant to Paramount's Western division manager George A. Smith, and Katherine Hatcher of Ontario, Cal., will be married this afternoon in Ontario. Selby Carr of Fox West Coast Theatres will be the bridgeroom's attendant.

•

Louis Lober, associate regional director of Loew's International for continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, has returned to the home office after a tour of his territory.

•

Ralph Wheelwright, assistant to Howard Strickling, and Frank Whitbeck, M-G-M studio advertising chief, will leave here today by train for the Coast.

•

Harry Miller, assistant to William B. Zoellner, M-G-M short subject sales manager, is vacationing in New Hampshire.

•

Ann De Ragon, manager of Reade's Strand Theatre, Plainfield, N. J., is touring Canada with her husband and daughter on a vacation.

•

Frank Masek, manager of the Cleveland office of National Theatre Supply Co., and Mrs. Masek were in Middleton, R. I., recently.

•

Francis Winikus, United Artists advertising manager, will leave here today for a vacation.

•

Sam Pearlman, manager of Loew's State here, and Mrs. Pearlman have become parents of a daughter.

•

William F. Rodgers, M-G-M vice-president and general sales manager, is en route to the Coast from Chicago.

•

Ed Riley of United World Films has returned to Atlanta from Miami.

UK Tax Postpones U-I Production

Hollywood, Aug. 21.—Despite an announcement made by Universal-International that it would continue to maintain production in "quality and quantity" in the face of Britain's tax levy, S. P. Eagle, producer of "Song of Norway" for U-I release, today disclosed that production on the film, slated to go before the cameras in January, has been postponed indefinitely.

He said his pact with U-I was scheduled to expire with completion of the film. Instead, he said, he will leave the studio in about three weeks to enter production independently with John Huston, Warner director.

LET'S GET GOING . . *An Editorial*

(*Continued from page* 1)

diency or politics. No sound compromise can be made between right and wrong—and this tax is wrong in its whole concept.

In the meantime it should be emphatically noted that the American motion picture industry has lived and can live substantially within domestic revenues. This especially applies under current conditions when employment figures are at the highest level in the nation's history and the employed are receiving maximum incomes. An attitude of panic in face of the great and expanding home market is inexcusable.

One salutary feature of the British tax explosion is the opportunity it affords for the re-ordering of various methods and operations within the industry which have gotten out of hand and out of reason. It may gravely be questioned whether the lush income from Britain has not been an excuse and an alibi for practices which never should have been allowed in the first place. The British market has been a handy excuse in Hollywood for millions that never should have been spent.

•

CERTAIN factors in production costs have been definitely out of control. But this condition does not alone account for the fantastic rise in production costs that have been more or less casually accepted. Part of the increased labor cost in production has been inevitable, but another part of it, which includes dizzy complexities in the area of feather-bedding, never should have been tolerated and probably never would have been except for the easy income that was in view.

The biggest single factor inproduction costs that has been out of control centers in the outrageous competitive bidding which has screwed up many individual incomes in Hollywood to absurd heights, serving no good purpose whatsoever, and not even materially benefiting the recipients because eighty to ninety percent of such incomes become taxable under the income laws. Whether or not there is a British market, this condition calls for correction. A laborer is worth his hire, but these absurd "movie incomes" are out of step with every principle of sound business management.

Living within the domestic market, or substantially so, is not to be construed as meaning that the American theatre market is to be looked to for increased revenues to offset the loss of foreign income. The road to the needed readjustment lies not in that direction but in the direction of stopping the nonsense involved in a scale of production costs that rises in gobs of a million at a time. Some theatres, through strategical maneuver, are paying less than their share, but the vast majority, especially the smaller situations, are paying more.

LUSH revenues, both domestic and foreign, have made for a joyride all along the line. Showmanship—the aggressive, determined getting across the subject's merit, first to the trade and then to the public—has been on the shelf. A strange economy, indeed, it is to spend so much on the making of an entertainment that there is little or nothing left to tell the world about it. That policy comes only from wishful thinking, based on an expectation that revenues are just going to keep on increasing automatically. Some companies and individuals have been enjoying a pleasant momentum so long they seem to have forgotten what started things going in the first place.

The British tax explosion can be a boon to the American industry if it signals the return of a reign of business sanity. If it does not, the damage in the long run will be greater than anything the Attlee government has been able to cook up.

—*MARTIN QUIGLEY.*

Pascal's New Irish Film Unit is Set

By PETER BURNUP

London, Aug. 21.—Gabriel Pascal declared here today that all production arrangements of his new Irish Film Productions, Ltd., have been finalized and the company incorporated under Eireann laws. Capital of 100,000 pounds ($400,000) has been paid up, he said, with "virtually limitless capital available."

The directors are: Joseph McGrath and Eustace Shott, controllers of the Irish Sweepstakes; John Robinson, president of the Irish Architectural Association; Arthur Cox, lawyer; Dan Breen, government representative, and Pascal. The project is said to have the "blessing" of the Eireann government, which promises, it is stated, to build studios in Dublin. Designing and construction, it is believed, would take two years.

Also Pascal has obtained a 10-year lease, with an option to purchase studios on the Tirennia shore near Pisa, Italy. The controlling company is a subsidiary to the Irish company with prominent Italian industrialists as associates. The first production, "Saint Francis," will start in December, with Bacceli, well-known author, doing the scenario and Gennina directing. It will be made in Italian and English, with Bernard Shaw, on his own insistence, doing the English translation. Pascal is producing, and Frank Dermody, producer for the Dublin Abbey Theatre, as dialogue director.

The Italian production company will be known as Oceana Films. Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" and "St. Joan" are next on the schedule, with Pascal directing.

Pascal admits that distribution is unsettled, but claimed that several world-wide offers already have been made.

Arrangements to make a Mary Pickford-Lester Cowan production have been postponed, Pascal said.

Shaw has transferred all film rights of his plays and stories from Pascal to the Irish company.

Ceiling of Theatre Falls; 100 Hurt

Meadville, Pa., Aug. 21.—An estimated 100 persons were injured, 10 of them seriously, when a huge section of the ceiling of the Park Theatre, here, fell 110 feet to the main floor of the house, according to police. They reported that 30 persons were hospitalized. The chunk of plaster was said to be 100 square feet.

$160,000 for 'Years' in First Day at RKO

"The Best Years of Our Lives," playing 49 RKO theatres in New York and Brooklyn, grossed $160,038 on its opening day, yesterday, over the circuit, according to the Goldwyn office here. The film is playing at $1.20 top in the evening, whereas the summer price at the Astor, where the film played 38 weeks to a gross of $1,600,000, was $1.50.

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'RED STALLION' SMASH!

Record high business on sensational Day-and-Date national openings makes "Big Red" Box-Office Champion!

THEATRE	CITY	CIRCUIT
State	Altoona, Pa.	Wilmer & Vincent
Fox	Bakersfield, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Washington	Bay City, Mich.	Washington Theatre Co.
Majestic	Dallas, Texas	Interstate
Regent	Elmira, N. Y.	Warner
Orpheum, El Rey,	Los Angeles, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Vogue, Belmont,	Los Angeles, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Culver City	Los Angeles, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Varsity	Lincoln, Neb.	Westland
Riverside	Milwaukee, Wisc.	Standard
Fox	Phoenix, Ariz.	Fox West Coast
Orpheum	Oakland, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Civic	Portland, Me.	Independent
Mayfair	Portland, Ore.	Fox West Coast
Orpheum	Seattle, Wash.	Fox West Coast
Orpheum	Spokane, Wash.	Fox West Coast

THEATRE	CITY	CIRCUIT
Orpheum	Terre Haute, Ind.	Alliance
Worth	Ft. Worth, Texas	Interstate
Martini	Galveston, Texas	Interstate
Majestic	San Antonio, Texas	Interstate
California, State,	San Diego, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Loma	San Diego, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Warfield	San Francisco, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Warner	Oklahoma City, Okla.	Warner
Arlington	Santa Barbara, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Fox	San Bernardino, Calif.	Fox West Coast
U. A., Crest	Long Beach, Cal.	Fox West Coast
Empire	Fall River, Mass.	Yamins
Strand	Green Bay, Wisc.	Standard
Metropolitan	Houston, Texas	Interstate
Palace	Jamestown, N. Y.	Warner
Gateway	Kenosha, Wisc.	Standard

ASK THE MAN WHO PLAYS IT!

EAGLE LION HIT!

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

HOLLYWOOD's long - standing feud between William Hutcheson's Brotherhood of Carpenters and Richard Walsh's IATSE has resounded in the halls of the home for old carpenters at Lakeland, Florida, where, according to "IA" Lakeland secretary Arthur Bowden, Hutcheson has discontinued motion picture showings at the home for the old gents—because the projectionists belong to the IATSE.

▽

Laboratory examination of a pair of broken glasses led to the arrest Wednesday night of one Robert Farrington, ex-night manager of Seattle's Winter Garden Theatre and, according to police, a confession from Farrington admitting that he and a stranger he met in a gin-mill had staged last week's $400 *robbery of the theatre.*

Farrington had claimed that he had been held up and that during the robbery his glasses were broken by a gloved hand. Police laboraticians shot that alibi when their examination showed that the glasses were broken by a sharp instrument.

▽

Iris Barry's Museum of Modern Art in New York is proud to announce that "The magnificently filmed Olympic Games of 1936, held in Berlin, will be shown on the screen of the Museum, the week beginning Monday, August 25."

"To document the Games, Leni Riefenstahl and her corps of cameramen registered over a million feet of film," says the Museum's announcement.

Miss Riefenstahl, very, very close friend of (Heil) Hitler—she was his strictly-personal appointee to the newsreel job — forbade any foreign newsreelers, including Americans, to film the Berlin Games, and, as we recall the incident of 11 years ago, she compelled representatives of the American reels to sign voluminous contracts, in Berlin, agreeing to turn over to her every foot of film made by their German hirelings. It was Leni, and her agents, who censored the film of the events taken by the Germans on hire to the U. S. reels, and it was Leni who decided who was to get what footage, which wasn't much. Some time later she tried to commercialize a full feature of the footage here—unsuccessfully.

▽

Uncle Sam's War Assets Administration has put up for sale a new lot of government surplus and a weird lot it is that accompanies the 50,000 rolls of 35mm. "*outdated* motion picture film offered." It includes money bags (not the Wall Street variety), Bailey Bridges, ringing equipment (for Postmen), battery pullers, corner protectors, forming rolls (oven baked?), etc., etc.

▽

"Actors Cues", theatrical sheet, nominates this one as the prize press release of the year:

> Lassie, M-G-M dog star, a pure blooded Collie, demonstrates his remarkable acting talent by playing a thoroughbred Chow in China 2,000 years ago in the drama to be heard during the ABC broadcast of "The Story of Lassie" Sunday at 3 P.M.

'Showmanship Will Offset UK Blow'

Los Angeles, Aug. 21.—Development and presentation of "new ideas in showmanship" to offset the effect of the British film tax through an increase in revenue was urged upon National Theatres managers here today by Charles Skouras, circuit president. He also announced that cash prizes aggregating $125,000 are being offered to employes in the circuit's 12th annual fall drive.

Speaking at a general meeting at NT headquarters, Skouras also cautioned the managers to inspect all phases of their operations in an effort to avoid unnecessary costs.

George Bowser, NT general manager, announced that Fox Midwest won the fifth Skouras showmanship campaign, receiving $19,608 in prizes; Evergreen State Amusement Corp., Seattle, took second place and $9,078 in prizes; Fox Intermountain, Denver, third, with $10,214; Northern California, fourth, $15,596. Southern California finished fifth and Fox Wisconsin sixth. Awards, including Detroit, Philadelphia, NT home office personnel and "forgotten men," totalled $101,954.

U.S. Library Will Register Films

Washington, Aug. 21.—Spokesmen for the Library of Congress, announcing the liquidation of its motion picture unit, as directed by Congress, said today that the Library would continue to register films deposited for copyright. It will also preserve the 65,000 reels now in storage, plus a limited number to be selected from future copyright deposits.

Library officials again expressed concern over the possible loss of its films through deterioration and reiterated that they would introduce legislation at the next session of Congress to settle the question.

Kenneth Price, Jr. Killed in Accident

Memphis, Aug. 21.—Kenneth Price, Jr., of McComb, Miss., brother of Hollywood director Will Price and brother-in-law of actress Maureen O'Hara, was killed yesterday when his car struck a bridge two miles South of Magnolia, Miss.

Maurice Livingston, 42

Memphis, Aug. 21.—Maurice Livingston, 42, owner of a new theatre in Tuckerman, Ark., died last night at his home there. Livingston, who was building a new theatre at Swifton, Ark., had just returned from a trip here. He is survived by the widow and daughter. Funeral services will be held Saturday.

Film Composer Dies

Hollywood, Aug. 21. — Lucien Denni, film arranger and composer and musical director of animated cartoons, died at his home at Hermoda Beach, Cal., Tuesday.

New Southern Firm

Jacksonville, N. C., Aug. 21.—Capitalized at $100,000, the Ritz Theatre of Jacksonville, Inc., has been organized here to operate a motion picture theatre. Principals are H. M. Loy, William Loy and A. V. Cowell.

'Pallid' Newsreels Irk Ia.-Neb. Allied

Eldora, Ia., Aug. 21. — "Here's hoping somebody does something to put some life into the newsreels," says the AITO of Iowa-Nebraska's current bulletin, noting the take-over of Pathe News by Warners.

"The reels are a mighty pallid, dull lot now; certainly not worth as much, or any more than they're costing now."

The newsreels also were criticized by the ATO of Indiana recently for advertising current and coming attractions of their distributors. "They should pay us for running them," said the ATOI.

Exhibitors to Attend SMPE Convention

More than 50 leading exhibitors, including many circuit executives, will attend the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers at the Hotel Pennsylvania here on Oct. 20-24. Featured at the Society's fall meeting will be a theatre engineering conference and an educational-scientific exhibit.

Among those who will attend, according to James Frank, Jr., chairman of the general committee for the convention, are: E. V. Richards, Saenger Amusement Co., New Orleans; R. H. McCullough, National Theatres, Los Angeles; L. E. Pope, Fox Midwest, Kansas City; Nash Weil, Wilby-Kincey, Atlanta; W. V. Toney, A. H. Blank Theatres, Des Moines; A. I. Trebow, Balaban and Katz, Chicago; Jake Elder, Interstate Circuit, Dallas; H. S. Walker and L. C. Pearson, Dominion Sound Equipments, Ltd., Montreal; Ed Arthur and Albert Stetson, Fanchon and Marco Theatres, St. Louis, and Harry Brandt, Brandt Theatres, New York.

M-G-M Product Meet Ends Here Today

The two-day M-G-M meeting at the home office on the promotion of new product, held with advertising, publicity and exploitation executives from the East and West, will conclude today.

Attending from the studio are Howard Strickling, Coast publicity head; Frank Whitbeck, advertising head, and Ralph Wheelwright, assistant to Strickling. From the home office are Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Silas F. Seadler, advertising manager; William R. Ferguson, exploitation head; Herbert Crooker, publicity manager, and Tom Gerety. Sitting in for Loew's Theatres was Ernest Emerling, in charge of the circuit's advertising, publicity and exploitation.

Nuremberg Crimes Film

Washington, Aug. 20.—A rough cut of the official film of the Nuremberg trials has been completed in Germany, the War Department has announced. The picture will be screened for the Military Government in Berlin and War Department officials here before final cutting.

Lopert Announces New French Unit

Formation in France of La Co-Production, production cooperative composed of six units, was announced here yesterday by I. E. Lopert, president of Lopert Films, who has just returned from France, where he completed arrangements to release the films here.

Stating that the primary purpose of the new organization is to "develop French production and get outlets abroad," Lopert said that the move was made out of desperation brought on by soaring production costs and a rapidly decreasing world market. He asserted that the French industry's salvation lies in the pooling of resources by top-line studios to insure sufficient capital for the completion of pictures now in production and those in preparation.

Under the new set-up, an independent can line up a story, director and stars, and bring the package to La Co-Production for mutual financing. Among those included in the group are Pathe, Gaumont and Filmsono.

Lopert's deal gives him first call on all of the new organization's product for release in the United States, he said. Lopert now controls or has booking arrangements with two New York first-runs, and theatres in Washington, Detroit, Chicago and eight West Coast theatres of the Rosener circuit.

Admission Price Index Is Down

Washington, Aug. 21.—The government's index of admission prices dipped sharply during the second quarter, dropping to the lowest point since last November.

At the end of June, the index was 63.5 per cent above the 1935-39 base period. Last November it was 61.1 per cent above the base, rose to 163.7 per cent in December, and continued to rise through the first three months.

The figures are based on reports from 34 major cities, including first, second and third run theatres in downtown and neighborhood sections. Sharpest drop was in the index of children's admission prices, which at the end of June stood at 158.5, the lowest point since last September when they were 157.9

The rise in admission prices has always been small in comparison to the rise in prices of other items in the cost of living index, and the present drop is distinctly counter to the trend for most of the index components.

Berlin Forms Firm For Film Interests

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 21.—Irving Berlin Enterprises has been incorporated here to deal in a motion picture business. O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery and Lawler were counsel.

Irving Berlin disclosed here yesterday the purpose of the new company is to bring all of his film interests "under one roof."

$18,006 for Grable

The Roxy Theatre, here, claims the opening day's gross of $18,006, on Wednesday, for "Mother Wore Tights", established a new record for a Betty Grable picture at that house.

Blows Averted in Coast Studio Tour

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Violence was narrowly averted twice today by House labor subcommittee chairman Carroll D. Kearns, who restrained Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, from coming to blows with Cappy Duval, business agent of the IATSE propertyman's local. Cause of the friction arose over Duval's comments to Kearns concerning studio jobs which are the subject of the jurisdictional strife here.

The near-violence developed in the course of a tour of M-G-M and Eagle-Lion studios by Kearns on a fact-finding expedition, accompanied by representatives of the disputant unions.

The subcommittee held no hearings today, but will resume tomorrow.

Report UA Layoffs Here; Rep. on Coast

While talk of economies continued in the industry, an economy layoff list of between 35 to 50 employes was understood yesterday to have been prepared by United Artists here.

Changes reported included shifts in the personnel department. UA executives were not available for comment.

It is understood that some employes on the layoff list are members of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, which held an emergency meeting here of its administrative committee and all chapter chairmen last night to consider the development.

Expect Republic Layoff Of 150 at the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—Personnel dismissals expected to number 150 have been ordered by Republic here. In the main, according to a checkup at the studio, the cuts consist of a paring down of studio department staff, with the publicity department, for example, laying off three persons.

It follows action by Universal-International in laying off about 200. Similar programs are under way at other studios.

Newsreel Men Get Contract Extension

The contract of some 100 newsreel men, represented by the International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry, Locals No. 644 here, No. 666 in Chicago, and No. 659 in Hollywood, has been extended to Aug. 20, 1948, with provision for wage reopening talks on Jan. 1, 1948. The contract was scheduled to expire Dec. 31, 1947.

By virtue of the extension, the closed shop feature of the contract will continue for one year. Under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley act, effective today, the closed shop would have been banned had no extension been granted.

Starr Resigns 'IA' Post

William Starr, president of Motion Picture Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, who is employed here in the foreign department of Warner Brothers, has resigned his union post. He will be succeeded temporarily by Irving Zimmerman, local vice-president, who is employed by the Ace Laboratories.

'IA' to File

(*Continued from page 1*)

the Taft-Hartley law as unfair and discriminatory, and declared that it would prove productive of dissatisfaction among employers as well as among workers.

In taking action to file, the board felt that it was necessary in order to protect the bargaining rights now enjoyed by the IATSE and by those of its local union members working in interstate commerce who are therefore subject to the law.

International president Richard F. Walsh denounced the act as a "drastic attempt on the part of the reactionary industrial interests of America to use Congress to destroy the trade union movement." He predicted that the law would result in a reduced standard of living for the workers of America.

Emphasizing the board's belief that the law will not further good labor-management relations but will disrupt them, Walsh said: "We intend to fight the act in every legitimate way possible, and to seek the defeat of those members of Congress who were responsible for its enactment."

One reason given for the board's opposition to the law was its conviction that it helps rather than hinders Communists in their campaign to subvert the American trade union movement.

"It is well known," Walsh asserted, "that the IATSE has been one effective bulwark against the Communist's capture of Hollywood studio labor. Our organization loathes the Communist and everything he stands for."

Walsh also said that since his election to the IATSE presidency in 1941, financial records and by-laws of the union have been "an open book."

Walsh announced that the petition of Boston Local No. 182, Motion Picture Operators, to strike at the termination of its contract on Aug. 31 had been referred to William Scanlan of Lynn, Mass., international trustee.

Tests of Taft Act Expected Here Soon in Film Industry

As the features of the Taft-Hartley law go into effect today, unions in the industry here find themselves in situations which will soon provide tests of what the law actually will do.

Such a situation appears in the case of Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, which has just sent a request to Consolidated Film Laboratories, of Ft. Lee, N. J., asking that the firm sit down to collective bargaining sessions for 50 employes. The local claims a majority.

Under the law, the firm can tell the union to get certification as collective bargaining agent from the National Labor Relations Board. If the union does not wish to utilize the offices of the NLRB, and enters a strike situation, the traditional support of other 'IA' locals is hampered by the provisions of the Taft-Hartley law prohibiting secondary boycotts. Thus, if other 'IA' locals honored Local No. H-63's picket lines, they would be leaving themselves open to possible prosecution for violations of the secondary boycott provision, and to liability for breach of contract.

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild's parent, the United Office and Professional Workers of America, has already decided not to use the channels of the NLRB. SOPEG is not as immediately affected by the law's ban on the closed shop written into the law, since it has no closed shop contracts for home office employes here, but IATSE, with the exception of its home office local, H-63, has a majority of closed shop contracts.

Several IATSE locals won contract extensions on the eve of the act's going into effect, and thus preserved their closed-shop clauses for one year. Among them were International Photographers' Locals No. 644 here. No. 666 in Chicago and No. 659 in Hollywood.

Rank Offers Studio For Religious Films

LONDON, Aug. 21.—J. Arthur Rank disclosed last night that a motion picture studio is being constructed at the London suburb of Elstree for the production of religious films.

Rank told the World's Sunday School Association conference that the studio "will belong to me but it will be available for any religious group of any denomination to use for making films of their own choice." He did not explain in detail on what basis the studio would operate, but said it would produce non-profit films, most of them 16mm., for churches.

The conference adopted a proposal by Rank to establish offices in New York, London and Geneva to promote the use of religious films. He offered to establish the London office, and an association spokesman said Mrs. Clifford Heinz of Pittsburgh volunteered to underwrite the New York office.

New Group to Improve Industry in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 21.—Improving and developing the Mexican film industry is the announced object of the National Cinematographic Commission, just organized by a decree of President Miguel Aleman. It supplants the Super Cinematographic Council. The new commission members are:

Antonio Castro Leal, chief censor, chairman; Jose L. Campo, manager ot the industry's bank, the Banco Cinematografico; Manuel Sanchez Cuen, film banking counsellor; Celestino Gorostiza, stage and screen dramatist; Gabriel Figueroa, cameraman; Jose Gomez Robleda, author and psychologist; Adolfo Fernandez Bustamante, secretary general of the Picture Production Workers Union, and Andres Henstrosa, author.

Sullivan Resigns

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 21.—William J. O. Sullivan, with Republic in various capacities for 17 years, has announced his resignation, with future plans to be disclosed later.

'IA' Exchange Talks Under Way Here

Discussions with IATSE officials on extension of the union's national contract covering several thousand exchange employes in various major cities have been under way with company executives here for several days.

Negotiations have been slowed down because of the absence of top IATSE officials in Boston, where the union's executive board is in session.

It was understood that agreement was being sought last night in anticipation of the new provisions of the Tart-Hartley law going into effect.

Golden State Sold

(*Continued from page 1*)

Emmick and Robert A. McNeil. Golden State is the largest independent circuit in Northern California, operating its 104 theatres through 41 corporations.

The deal was closed in the presence here of Charles Skouras, Los Angeles, president of 20th-Fox's National Theatres, and whose Principal Theatres control a large interest in Golden State. The Skouras interest was said to have had weight in blocking the sale to Lippert and Reynolds. Also, the Lippert-Reynolds deal demanded more concessions than Naify's offer, with an ultimate object of buying out all partners and controlling operation and management.

L. S. Hamm, attorney for Naify, declared that the deal would mean no change in Golden State's circuit policy or personnel.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'Copacabana'
Groucho MARX
Carmen MIRANDA
IN PERSON
THELMA CARPENTER
Extra!
HANK LADD
Plus Others

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

BETTY GRABLE . DAN DAILEY
"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE
JACK HALEY · ELLA LOGAN
Extra: JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

SIMPP Protest

(Continued from page 1)

Eric Johnston be named as advisers.

Snyder is chairman of the NAC, top level U. S. financial unit, which has been carrying on talks here with the British on relaxing the British loan agreement.

Unconfirmed reports late today said the British film tax had come up for the first time in the talks between the British delegation and U. S. officials. A Treasury Department announcement said that a meeting of the NAC and British delegation had heard a "general forecast of the British balance of payments for the remainder of the year and the first half of 1948." It is hard to see how this could be discussed without some estimate of film remittances and the general tax question.

The Coast delegation which yesterday took the SIMPP's protest against the British tax to Acting Secretary of State Robert A. Lovett, today protested to Snyder, Export-Import Bank president William McChesney Martin, and Assistant Secretary of Commerce David A. Bruce, all NAC members.

They told the Government officials that the tax is already having a serious effect on the bank credit of independent U. S. producers, and asked Snyder to rule immediately that the Dalton tax violates all three existing Anglo-American financial agreements. They said small U. S. producers do not have the resources to soften a blow like the loss of the British market.

Any solution to the British problem, the SIMPP delegation warned, must not place negotiations in the hands of any one segment of the industry, must not dislocate the U. S.
tee were: Gunther R. Lessing, Walt
film industry, and must protect all equally.

Members of the three-man commit-
Disney vice-president; Milton Kramer, representing David O. Selznick; and James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions. Marving L. Faris, Nelson's assistant, accompanied them.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that the British have withdrawn another $150,000,000 of the British loan and plan withdrawals of $300,000,000 more before the end of the month, dropping their balance to a mere $400,000,000 of the original $3,750,000,000. This will be frozen, under yesterday's agreement, until a final agreement is reached on relaxing the loan terms.

The British delegation, it was reported, is pressing for further concessions besides the permission to end free convertibility of sterling into dollars. The main concession desired now is permission to increase purchases from other countries.

Two Hollywood Unions Protest British Tax

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.— Two more Hollywood unions today officially joined the industry protest against the British 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax.

In a telegram to Secretary of State George C. Marshall, Herbert Aller, business representative of the International Photographers Union, Local No. 659, asked that Marshall take steps "to promulgate a similar tax against British pictures, as well as to establish stringent immigration laws," if the problem is not soon settled to the benefit of all concerned.

Emmett Lavery, president of the Screen Writers Guild, wired Acting Secretary of State Lovett "to use every effort to effect equitable adjustment of the situation precipitated by the new British import duty."

20th-Fox Net

(Continued from page 1)

28, consolidated net income, after all charges, was $2,504,175. After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stock, this amounted to 84 cents per share on common stock. Profit for the first quarter of 1947 was $5,897,603, while the profit for the second quarter of 1946 on a comparable basis was $5,207,496, equal to $1.97 per share of common stock.

Gross income from sales and rentals of film and theatre receipts for the 26 weeks ended June 28 was $93,517,473.56, compared with gross income of $91,218,724.66 for the 26 weeks ended June 29, 1946. Net profit before Federal taxes and minority interests for the 26 weeks ended June 28 was $15,821,760.29, as compared with net profit of $21,789,477.24 for the 26 weeks ended June 29, 1946. Provision for Federal income taxes was $6,200,000 for the 26 weeks ended June 28, compared with Federal taxes of $8,850,000 for the 26 weeks ended June 29, 1946.

Quarterly Dividend of $1.12½ Declared on 20th's Preferred

Board of directors of 20th Century-Fox yesterday declared a quarterly cash dividend of $1.12½ per share on outstanding prior preferred stock, payable on Sept. 15 to stockholders of record on Sept. 2.

A quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on outstanding convertible preferred stock was also declared payable on Sept. 30 to stockholders of record on Sept. 9, 1947.

Also, a quarterly dividend of 75 cents on common was declared, payable Sept. 30, to stockholders of record on Sept. 9.

Coming Events

Aug. 25-27—Columbia sales meeting, Hotel Warwick, New York.

Aug. 30-Sept. 4—M-G-M sales conference, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Sept. 19-20—American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Owners Association joint membership meeting, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-29 — Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1—Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association annual convention, Philips Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 20-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 62nd semi-annual convention, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

FCC Grants Video Cable Additions

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21.—Transmission facilities for television network programs will be available soon on a network loop that will run from New York, Chicago, Atlanta and back to New York, the Federal Communications Commission announced today.

Permission has been granted to the American Telephone and Telegraph Co., the Commission said, to supplement existing coaxial cable facilities, including the St. Louis-Memphis cable which will complete the loop of New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, Jackson, Atlanta, Charlotte, Washington and New York.

A. T. and T. was also granted authority to construct an Augusta-Atlanta coaxial cable, which will complete the transcontinental cable route from New York to Los Angeles. The St. Louis-Memphis route will also be the first link in the Chicago-New Orleans coaxial cable route.

Ascap Asks

(Continued from page 1)

sic Hall and the Roxy on Broadway, which now pay Ascap about $1,200 anannually, would be required to pay approximately $7,500 annually.

Ascap's total revenue from theatres has averaged around $1,000,000 under the old rates. Under the new rates, it is estimated, its theatre collections will be more than three times that amount.

The organization discloses that it began mailing notices of the change to the first of its 17,000 licensees in exhibition yesterday. The increases will become effective upon the expiration of present contracts, most of them about the first of the year.

It was said that all present contracts will continue in effect, there being some which run through next summer. Additionally, theatres which already have begun negotiations for renewals will not be affected in the new contracts.

An announcement by Deems Taylor, president, which confirmed MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S report yesterday, asserted the new rates will be equivalent to about one-thousandth of the total admission dollars.

Herman Greenberg, in charge of all licensing for Ascap, will direct the theatre fee operation.

Taylor said that the new method of taxation has been found acceptable in other countries due, in his opinion, to its taking into consideration the relation that ought to exist between the theatre income and its music costs. He added:

"Our income from this large body of licensees has not kept pace with the greatly increased income of the motion picture theatres. The present scale, based on seating capacities, was adopted in 1934, in the depths of the depression, and as to each theatre, our income has remained static from that time. Since then all costs have mounted, particularly theatre admissions. Rising costs affect the composers, as well as any other profession. We feel they are entitled to consideration and believe that our licensees will see that this new method of calculation is designed to correct a manifest inequity."

U-I Ad Unit

(Continued from page 1)

volving a wider time-spread of first-run key city engagements, John Joseph, national director of advertising and publicity announced today. The change will take effect next month when the New York office will move to its new building on Park Ave.

Maurice Bergman, now Eastern advertising-publicity director, will head the department, while Joseph will continue to make his headquarters here. The latter will supervise over-all promotional production.

A studio unit will be maintained for advertising-promotion activities, headed by U-I's present advertising coordinator, David A. Lipton. Chief concern of the studio unit will be activities preceding and during the course of production.

Dunn, Bellman

(Continued from page 1)

man to the post of assistant circuit sales manager.

Dunn joined Warners in 1926 as Pittsburgh branch manager. In 1931 he shifted to foreign service, becoming Far Eastern supervisor. In Singapore he was captured by the Japs until his repatriation on the *SS Gripsholm.* Later Dunn spent a year with Warners at the studio and in the Cleveland buying department, resigning in 1944 to go to Florida. In March, 1946, he joined Producers Releasing as assistant general sales manager.

Bellman entered distribution after managing the Royal Theatre, New York. Following a term as general manager of Pioneer Exchange, he formed Hollywood Pictures, to distribute Columbia product. Subsequently, Hollywood was sold to Columbia, Bellman joining the latter company as New York exchange head. In 1935 he was named general exchange manager for Republic, later becoming Eastern district manager. In 1945, Bellman joined Producers Releasing as home office sales executive.

Mexico Increases Film Financing

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 21.—Capital of the industry's own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, S.A., Jose L. Campo, manager, has been raised to $2,000,000 by orders of President Miguel Aleman. The government contributed to the new capital, which had been $800,000. The bank was founded by the industry and the government in 1938. The increase was made to expand financing to producers.

New Section Heads Named by RMA

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21. — Three new section chairmen have been appointed to the Radio Manufacturers Association amplifier and sound equipment division. They are A. K. Ward, commercial sound equipment; Arch V. Samuelson, intercommunication equipment; H. A. Crossland, recording equipment.

A scheduled meeting in Washington of the liaison committees of the RMA and the National Association of Broadcasters, has been postponed indefinitely.

Famous Players Dividend

TORONTO, Aug. 21.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has declared a record dividend for the third quarter of 1947 comprising the regular 20 cents per common share plus an extra payment of 50 cents, both payable Sept. 20 to stockholders of record on Sept. 6.

"MOTION PICTURE HERALD

. . . the foremost motion picture industry weekly in America"

—HOLLYWOOD QUARTERLY of July 1947: published by the University of California, Berkeley and Los Angeles, under the joint sponsorship of the University of California and the Hollywood Quarterly Associates.

There's No Business Like SRO Business!

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS

STOOD 'EM UP FROM 9 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT OPENING DAY! MORE MONEY AND MORE PEOPLE FOR A NON-HOLIDAY DATE THAN ANY OTHER TECHNICOLOR TRIUMPH IN THE GREAT BOXOFFICE HISTORY OF THE ROXY AND 20th CENTURY-FOX!

FLASH! 2nd Day Hour for Hour, BIGGER than 1st!

"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS" Color by TECHNICOLOR starring BETTY GRABLE with DAN DAILEY and MONA FREEMAN CONNIE MARSHALL • Vanessa Brown • Robert Arthur • Sara Allgood • William Frawley • Ruth Nelson • Anabel Shaw • Directed by WALTER LANG • Produced by LAMAR TROTTI • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • Based on the book by Miriam Young • Lyrics and Music by Mack Gordon and Josef Myrow

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. [illegible] NO. 39 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 1947 TEN CENTS

All Exchange Permits Ended By Argentina

New Zealand, Australia Weigh Film Tax Boost

While industry representatives entered discussions with the British in Washington on the British tax, Argentina at the weekend suspended temporarily import exchange permits, which added immediately to the American industry's problems.

In addition, reports came that New Zealand, and possibly Australia, were preparing to boost the tax on American films.

The Central Bank of Argentina's temporary suspension of exchange permits applies to all importations. The measure was taken, it was said, to study the local consequences of the Anglo-U. S. agreement of last week suspending the dollar-convertibility provisions of the British Loan Agreement. In consequence of that action,

(*Continued on page 2*)

Guilds Plan Joint Action on Layoffs

Leaders of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and the Screen Publicists Guild met in joint session here over the weekend to plan a series of actions to combat personnel layoffs, which have already occurred at 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and which the two unions anticipate in home offices here of other companies.

A joint membership meeting of the

(*Continued on page 2*)

3-Day Columbia Meet Opens Here Today

Columbia division managers and managers of branches without district supervision will meet at the Warwick Hotel, here today, for a three-day conference with home office executives. A. Montague, general sales manager, will preside. The meeting will be devoted to a discussion of the handling of top product, as well as an examination of the national sales picture.

Exchange Contract Extended One Year

IATSE's national contract covering several thousand exchange employes in various major cities has been extended one year, to Aug. 21, 1948, by agreement of the union and the companies.

Provision was also made for re-opening of wage talks on Dec. 1 of this year. The extension was granted before the Taft-Hartley law's full provisions went into effect last Friday.

50 Million Marks Blocked in Germany

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24.—More than 50,000,000 marks have been paid into blocked accounts for film distributors in Germany since the start of the occupation, the War Department reveals.

Army officials here are unable to say how much of this is for American firms, but indicated that probably a very large share is. They said final distribution of the funds, which at present can be used only in Germany, must wait for the signing of the peace treaty.

Word sent here from Berlin reports that monetary difficulties and raw stock shortages continue to hamper German film production.

Half-Dozen Actions Pending vs. Ascap; Won't Prevent Boost

At least a half-dozen actions either have been initiated or are contemplated by exhibitor organizations against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

However, inasmuch as most of them involve either lengthy litigation or anti-Ascap legislation which could not even be introduced for months to come, their significance to Ascap's immediate move to increase theatre music taxes 300 to 500 per

(*Continued on page 3*)

Donaldson, Others, Appointed by E-L

The appointment of Tom Donaldson as New England district manager for Eagle Lion was announced by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. At the same time Schwalberg also announced that Harry Segal, special sales representative for E-L since the inception of the company, has been named Boston branch manager.

Other appointments in the New England district include Al Fecke as sales manager in Boston and Max Salzberg as New Haven branch manager.

Johnston, Eady Discuss Tax; 'High Level' Talks End

WASHINGTON, Aug. 24. — Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and Sir Wilfrid Eady, head of the British financial delegation, discussed possible alternatives to the Dalton *ad valorem* tax in a long talk held here over the weekend.

Johnston flew back from his West Coast vacation to attend the conference, which was set up Friday in a meeting between Eady and Joyce O'Hara, Johnston's assistant, and Allen W. Dulles, MPA foreign adviser.

MPA officials stressed that Sir Wilfrid has power only to report the American stand to the Labor Government, and not actually negotiate any alternative arrangement himself while in the U. S.

It was indicated that Johnston has been becoming increasingly concerned over world developments. He is expected to remain in the Capital, talking to State Department and other high Government officials over the effect the world dollar shortage is having on U. S. film exports, and may also call another MPA board meeting to discuss the situation.

Concrete proposals and counter-proposals on the film tax also came up at a meeting of U. S. and British government officials on Saturday, with State, Commerce and Treasury Department representatives participating.

Secretary of the Treasury Snyder declared that "high level" discussions on the loan agreement had been concluded, and that only technical discussions would continue this week. There was no indication whether the U. S. had made further concessions. Presumably final decision on these concessions will wait until early September, when Snyder and other top financial officials are scheduled to be in London for the World Bank parley.

US Exhibitors Aroused By Ascap 'Gouge'

See Strong Fight Ahead On 300% Music Tax Boost

A storm of protest and indignation from theatre owners around the country followed the announcement by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers late last week that it would ask exhibitors to pay the dollar equivalent of a capacity performance at adult evening admission prices for every theatre in return for a new one year music performing rights license.

It was immediately apparent that the new music tax will be opposed vigorously.

Exhibitors estimate Ascap's plan represents an increase in theatre music taxes ranging from 300 to 500 per cent over present rates.

Deems Taylor, Ascap president, sought to justify the proposed increase in his assertion that living costs for authors, composers and publishers

(*Continued on page 3*)

IATSE Hits British Tax, Asks Revision

BOSTON, Aug. 24.—Revision of the 75 per cent British tax on American films was urged in a resolution passed at the weekend by the general executive board of the IATSE as it concluded its mid-summer session here.

Hitting the tax as "confiscatory and discriminatory" against the industry and as one that would adversely affect its workers, the 'IA' resolution urged Secretary of State Marshall

(*Continued on page 3*)

Studios Extended Ten Labor Pacts

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—With the signing of a one-year extension of the studio teamsters' contract late last week, the major producers' labor committee completed the work, authorized several weeks ago by company heads in New York, of forestalling for a year the potentially costly and bothersome work interruptions

(*Continued on page 2*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT YATES, president of Republic, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., will leave New York today for Detroit, and will attend a meeting of Minnesota Amusement Co. in Minneapolis later.

•

RODNEY SMITH, executive secretary of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association here, is due in New York today from a Maine vacation.

•

MAURICE "RED" SILVERSTEIN, Loew's International regional director of Latin-America, has returned to New York following a tour of Central and South America.

•

PERRY SPENCER, Universal-International Southern publicity chief, has returned to Atlanta from Memphis and New Orleans.

•

JULE WILLIAMSON, RKO office manager in Charlotte, has been promoted to salesman, with CLAY JESSUP succeeding him as office manager.

•

ANDY W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, returned here Friday from a visit to Albany and Philadelphia exchanges.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount director of studio advertising and publicity, is due here from the Coast on Sept. 7.

Warns Exhibitors of 'The $1.20 Picture'

ELDORA, Ia., Aug. 24.—Enterprises's "Arch of Triumph" and Warners' "Life with Father" will be sold at advanced admissions, while Paramount is "holding up" "Welcome Stranger" to "see how the advanced admission prices go throughout the country," members of Allied ITO of Iowa-Nebraska are informed in the organization's current bulletin from Leo Wolcott, chairman of the board.

The bulletin reminds that 20th Century-Fox will sell "Forever Amber" at "the roadshow basis of $1.20" top and adds that the organization "hears" that the same company's "Captain from Castile" will be "similarly treated."

"We just can't imagine any small town exhibitor charging his patrons $1.20 admission and then having to go on living among them," the bulletin observes.

"We repeat, such pictures are soon forgotten—if you don't run them. The $1.20 admission will never be forgotten," the bulletin says, pointing out that large city first-runs charge approximately that scale normally but that smaller theatres are forced to "triple" their established price to comply with the policy.

Clergyman Hits 'IA', Producer 'Conspiracy'

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 24.—Charges that producers and the IATSE were in an agreement tantamount to a conspiracy to eliminate the Conference of Studio Unions from the Hollywood labor picture were made here Friday by Rev. George H. Dunne, professor of political science at Loyola University. The clergyman, who offered his services as arbitrator representing the Inter-Faith Council to settle the jurisdictional dispute, gave testimony before the House labor subcommittee.

During the morning session, the House unit's chairman, Carroll D. Kearns, said he "would hate to see some other country move in on the bulk of the film industry because of lack of unity on the West Coast."

Extend Labor Pacts

(Continued from page 1)

which might arise from application of the Taft-Hartley law.

Especially feared by both studios and unions which had contracts expiring within a year was the feature of the law requiring National Labor Relations Board certification and possible elections to determine whether each organization was a proper bargaining agency.

The union shop, which prevails generally here, also would be brought into question.

It is believed that experience in other industries during the next year will have set precedents and a pattern which will be useful in this industry before the pacts expire a year hence and force an actual facing of the law's provisions.

The teamsters' pact was the 10th to be extended. The IATSE group and others not extended in recent weeks are for terms of more than a year.

Producers Sign Pact with Set Erectors in Sudden Move

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—Major studios have revealed that they signed a one-year contract with IATSE covering set erection workers, key issue in the 10-month-old strike and principal topic of the House labor subcommittee probe. Signed last Thursday night, the contract, which came as a total suprise, covers about 500 employes of Local No. 468, which came into existence at the close of the 1945 studio strike.

The local, which had functioned without a contract since its organization, has been supplying replacements for striking carpenters. Conference of Studio Unions spokesmen declared that the pact does not affect the basic issue of their strike. The strike will continue, they said.

The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, which normally follows AMPP pattern in labor contracts, has not signed a pact covering the set erection union, but will meet tomorrow night with a IATSE representative. The deadline did not apply to SIMPP because the organization had already contracted with IATSE for all types of labor represented. Details of the contract with Local No. 468 still require negotiation. The position of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association is identical with SIMPP's.

Argentina Ban

(Continued from page 1)

Argentina, a big trader with Britain, no longer can convert its pounds sterling into dollars. The Argentine action freezes American revenues there for the time being.

The action occurred while delegates to the Inter-American Defense Conference were deliberating economic problems at Quitamdinha, Brazil, with Secretary of State Marshall in attendance.

In Washington, Motion Picture Association spokesmen declined to comment on Argentina's action until they had complete details, but they indicated that they regarded it as another part of the world trend. It was understood that the Argentine step would be protested to the State Department.

The latest development in the knotty foreign market picture came as no surprise to industry executives here. Several said that they had anticipated the steps in the wake of the British dollar decision, and one head of a company's foreign department said that such action by foreign countries could be expected while negotiations with the British were still in progress.

"This sort of thing can be expected anywhere, especially where there may be a particular shortage of dollars," one company executive remarked. Several foreign department heads said they would "wait and see," and expressed the view that no American action was imminent at this time.

All agreed that the three markets were substantial ones, returning about $15,000,000 annually. A check of statistics showed that of 328 features distributed in Australia in 1946, 290 were American.

Layoff Action

(Continued from page 1)

two CIO unions, for the first time, will be held on Thursday, to consider the program developed by the union leaders.

Lay - Offs in Studio Publicity Staffs

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—Nine Screen Publicists Guild members were laid off at Universal Friday following transfer of the advertising and press book departments to the New York office.

Other recent curtailments in studio publicity departments include four at Warners, two at Paramount and two at Republic.

Southern Monogram In Annual Meeting

ATLANTA, Aug. 24.—Monogram Southern Exchanges is holding its annual sales meeting here today and tomorrow at the Biltmore Hotel. Addresses are to be given by president Arthur C. Bromberg and others.

The following are in attendance: Harold Cohen, Atlanta branch manager; Ben Jordan, Jimmy Campbell and Jack Barrett, Atlanta salesmen; Hal Jordan, A. L. Stot and J. E. McLeroy, from Charlotte; Henry Glover, J. J. Fabacher and George Nungesser, New Orleans; Bailey Prichard, Henry Hammond and F. J. Kaiser, Memphis.

Newsreel Parade

THE opening of the Rio conference highlights current newsreels. Among varied events also covered are India celebrating her freedom, the mine disaster, sports, and other items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 103—Labor celebrates in a free America. Conference of the Americas in Rio. U. S. we[illegible] mission in Europe. India celebrates its independence. Girl and boy shot out of cannon. Acrobatics with a song.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 301—Birth of two nations: India and Pakistan hail independence. Inter-America parley opens. Plight of DP's shocks America. Couple shot out of cannon. Acrobatic singers.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 104—Davis Cup tennis. One hundred and four dead in mine disaster. Open conference at Rio. Mission of mercy in Europe. Hughes shows his flying boat. Two nations are born.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 67—A new India is born. Rio conference underway. Acrobats vocalize. Six-year old motorcycle stunt rider. Davis Cup tennis team. Two shot from cannon.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 106—Inter-America conference in Rio. Flying wing on test hop. Mine blast kills 104. Big show in scout jamboree. India celebrates freedom. Senator Brewster on vacation. Hughes shows plane.

IMPPA 'Category' Plan Aided by All

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—First phase of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association "separate category" plan for limiting costs of pictures budgeted under $100,000, has been completed as a result of the cooperation of all unions or guilds approached for special arrangements, I. E. Chadwick, IMPPA head, declared yesterday.

"So far, we have established and obtained recognition of the principle that it is not necessary, as has been contended traditionally, that all labor contracts must be identical with those in effect with major studios," Chadwick said.

"The economies gained by the new arrangements by no means solve our whole problem but they do constitute a substantial beginning," he said.

New Money in United California Prod.

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 24.—Frank Hale, New York and Washington industrialist and sportsman, has been named chairman of the board of United California Productions, headed by Eugene Frenke, following his purchase of a large block of stock. Hale is president of National Yeast, National Food Industries, National Pharmaceutical, and the Palm Beach Jockey Club.

Fete Frudenfeld Sept. 5

CINCINNATI, Aug. 24.—The Variety Club, Tent No. 3, banquet for Arthur Frudenfeld, who retires on Sept. 11 as RKO division manager here, has been advanced to Sept. 5. It will be held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel. Frudenfeld is a past chief barker of the Cincinnati tent.

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Exhibitors Aroused

(*Continued from page* 1)

have increased since the present tax structure was drawn in 1934.

Many exhibitors pointed out that the cost-of-living index for the period cited by Taylor is approximately 60 per cent, whereas Ascap's minimum increase is 300 per cent. Many also pointed out that some of the most popular works in Ascap's catalogue are by men and women long since dead and obviously unaffected by the increase in living costs.

"Ascap, in effect, is asking every theatre in the United States tc give a capacity benefit performance for the Society," said one metropolitan exhibitor. "The fact that it has no just reason to demand an increase in its fees now is demonstrated by the Society's revenue report, which showed collections at an all-time high of approximately $1,000,000 for last month."

Ascap officials indicated last week that the Society's early plan of meeting with exhibitor organizations to discuss the increase has been abandoned. They contended that the organizations are not licensees and would be opposed to the increase, regardless, so nothing could be gained by conferring with them.

Exhibitor leaders, however, said they would not take the music tax increase "lying down."

"If Ascap refuses to meet us around the table," said one, "it will be forced to meet us in Federal court rooms and legislative chambers all over the country and in Washington."

Ascap announced officially that notices of the new music tax had been mailed or will be mailed to every theatre in the country and said it proposes to put the new licenses into effect for the most part between Oct. 1 and Jan. 1, when the bulk of the present theatre licenses expire.

'Unfair, Wrong and Unsound,' Says MPTOA President of Tax

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 24.—"I feel that Ascap's proposed revision upward of its music license rate for exhibitors is unfair, wrong and unsound and not justifiable to the facts," Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, said here yesterday.

"The MPTOA board twice has gone on record as being opposed to any increase and it will do everything legally within its power to fight this unjustifiable inroad on exhibitors' receipts," he said.

"As president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, I shall recommend joint action to the members at the Washington convention, Sept. 19 and 20.

"Recently published figures on Ascap's earnings eliminate its claim for the necessity of revising the theatre music tax upward," Wehrenberg contended.

'Utterly Ridiculous,' Says Wolcott of New License Plan

ELDORA, Ia., Aug. 24.—"Ascap's new rate schedule of theatre music taxes is utterly ridiculous," Leo F. Wolcott, board chairman of Allied Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, asserted here. To that he added: "Any increase is impossible for small theatres around the country."

New York Owners Seek Injunction

Declaring that Ascap has "declared war on all exhibitors," Milton C. Weisman, attorney for a group of New York independent theatre owner plaintiffs in a pending anti-trust suit against Ascap, disclosed here on Friday he will file for an injunction restraining the defendant from putting its new rates into effect. Additionally, he said, Department of Justice intervention also will be sought.

Weisman's statement asserted in part: "The decision of Ascap to increase its present music tax on theatres by a minimum of 300 per cent, as announced in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, has been arrived at unilaterally and without consultation with exhibitors. This decision is a most high-handed and arbitrary effort to consolidate the society's monopolistic control over music."

Says New Ascap Program Warrants Joint Action

Ascap's announced new rates for theatre music licenses constitutes a matter for joint industry action, an affiliated circuit executive said here yesterday. He said in his opinion authorized spokesmen for all exhibitors should "sit down" with Ascap in an effort to arrive at an agreeable formula for setting theatre music fees.

It was said that justification for the existence of Ascap is immediately recognizable—copyright music performance permission would otherwise be extremely difficult.

PCCITO Planning Ascap Court Test

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 24.—Trustees of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners concluded a three-day convention here with the launching of a drive for a fund of $25,000 to finance a court test of the legality of exhibitor collections by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Robert Graham, Seattle attorney, has been retained to handle the case.

Hugh Bruen, Whittier, Cal., has been named treasurer for the fund-raising drive and committeemen include: Graham and Bruen, Leroy Johnson, chairman, Ben Levin, Jack Suckstorff and William Graeper. Robert H. Poole is executive secretary of PCCITO.

Membership applications by exhibitors of Utah and Southern Idaho were unanimously approved at the session here bringing PCCITO representation to 10 states.

A new plan of licensing films was devised here and sent to distributors whose reactions are now awaited.

Hits British Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

and Secretary of the Treasury Snyder to use their offices to bring about a revision.

The resolution also instructed international president Richard F. Walsh to communicate with the offices of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes and the Association of Cine Technicians, both British unions, to urge them to work for a change in the tax.

Copies of the resolution were sent to the American Federation of Labor, asking its support.

Rank Says He Could Meet Own Needs, But at Cost of Quality

LONDON, Aug. 24.—Following widespread exhibitor reaction to his claim that he would meet all the demands of his own theatres for product within 18 months, J. Arthur Rank has further amplified his statement by asserting that he could achieve this provided the output of his studios were supplemented with reissues. However, he admits, he could not maintain present program standards.

While recognizing the necessity for the British tax action, Rank said he opposes the tax in its present form not only in the interest of the industries affected, but also in the national interest.

Actions Vs. Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

cent is regarded as dubious in legal quarters here.

Following is the status of some anti-Ascap moves:

Allied States: Plans reintroduction in Congress next year of bill resembling one killed several years ago in the House Copyright Committee which would require producer-distributors to pay music performing-rights fees on their films. Also is considering possible litigation to test legality of certain Ascap activities.

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America: Authorized its general counsel to confer with E. C. Mills, former Ascap general manager, on plans for combating the music tax increase. No action has been taken yet. Also on record as ready to oppose by all means at its command any increase in music tax.

Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners: Just initiating $25,000 fund-raising project to file test suit against Ascap.

Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York: Is a plaintiff in test action filed several years ago in New York Federal District Court against Ascap. Action has made very little progress and no indications of an early trial.

North Central Allied Theatre Owners: Interested in action filed against individual exhibitor defendants in Minneapolis Federal Court by Ascap, charging non-payment of license fees. Exhibitors recently were denied a preliminary motion, in deciding which the court wrote an opinion highly favorable to Ascap.

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey: Has been considering possible legal action against Ascap for several months. No action taken.

The American Theatres Association has taken no action on the Ascap issue nor has it indicated that it is interested in the subject in any way up to now, possibly because it may regard the music tax as within the realm of trade practices, which its charter prevents it from dealing with.

The recent Department of Justice suit against Ascap was an anti-cartel action involving only Ascap's international activities and has nothing to do with its domestic activities. The suit is in process of being settled. Ascap presently operates under a Federal consent decree resulting from an earlier anti-trust action against it by the Department of Justice.

Ask Parkway Dismissal

Leonard Finkelstein and Parkway Theatre Corp., of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., have asked dismissal of the suit brought by RKO and Loew's charging box-office inaccuracies, on the grounds that both plaintiffs participated in various distributor conspiracies in restraint of trade. The case is in New York Federal Court.

Denham, Fox Must Produce Records

DENVER, Aug. 24.—A motion to quash a court order requiring the Denham Theater and Fox Intermountain Theaters to furnish records of operation from Sept. 1, 1944 was denied in U. S. District Court here by Judge Foster J. Symes.

The records are wanted in the suit of Cinema Amusements, Inc., operating the Broadway Theater, against Loew's, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox. The suit is for $3,000,000, which is asked for damages because of an alleged anti-trust monopoly and conspiracy. Cinema charges that distributors and the theatre company conspired to withhold first-run playing time from the Broadway. The case is in Federal Court in Delaware. Thurman Arnold, attorney for Cinema, argued against the motion to quash.

WARNER BROS. TRADE SCREENING OF

"NIGHT UNTO NIGHT"

ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR AUG. 27th HAS BEEN POSTPONED
NEW DATE WILL BE ANNOUNCED

DON'T MISS THE BOAT!

Get Back to SHOWMANSHIP!

Sure, you can wait until your patrons stay away in *droves*...or until your Box Office gets lonely for revenue . . . before going into *action!* . . . But . . . WHY WAIT? . . . The *Showman*SHIP is moving ahead . . . and smart showmen have already *booked passage* . . . with increased advertising "sock" . . . in the *Newspapers* . . . on the *Radio* . . . with stepped-up Bill-Posting campaigns . . . and at point-of-contact . . . through *Lobby, Front* and SCREEN! . . . That's YOUR cue to *get started* . . . with the kind of BALLYHOO that GETS patrons . . . and Brings Them BACK! . . . DON'T MISS THE BOAT! . . . Get ABOARD, Now! . . . Get Back To Showmanship . . . with The PRIZE BABY!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
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NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

VOL. 62. NO. 40 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, AUGUST 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

MPA, SIMPP Join in U.K. Tax Problem

Eady Group Says Dollar Outlay Must Be Cut 75%

Despite apparent differences, the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and the Motion Picture Association are working together in the British tax matter, James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, said here yesterday following a meeting in the office of Gradwell L. Sears, president of United Artists. Participating in what Mulvey said amounted to only discussion of the subject were Francis Harmon, New York vice-president of MPA; and Lester Cowan, Benedict Bogeaus, David Loew and Carl Leserman, all

(*Continued on page* 8)

See No Sharp Film Cuts in Australia

By **FRANK O'CONNELL**

SYDNEY, Aug. 19 (By Airmail).—No drastic cuts in film imports by the Australian government are expected here in the wake of the dollar-saving policy introduced by the British government, since newsprint, cars, gasoline, tobacco and machinery absorb more dollars than films.

In the first step of dollar-conservation to aid Britain, the Australian cabinet will cut the gasoline ration by 10 to 25 per cent. Only slightly more than three per cent of Australia's total dollar expenditure is accounted for by films. It has been pointed out that eleven pence out of every shilling taken by films remains in the Commonwealth. This goes in prime duties, entertainment and other taxes, laboratory and operating costs, and Australian films' profits. On the other hand, the cabinet expects to effect a saving of 4,250,000 gallons of

(*Continued on page* 8)

House Unit Attempts Strike Settlement

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 25.—Efforts on the part of the House Labor subcommittee, which is conducting hearings here on studio labor practices, to bring about a settlement of the present studio strike were encouraged today by Herbert K. Sorrell, president

(*Continued on page* 8)

Downing St. Delays Statement As Eady Reports to Cabinet

LONDON, Aug. 25.—Sir Wilfrid Eady, head of the British financial mission to the United States, arrived at Downing Street following a weekend plane trip from Washington shortly before the conclusion this evening of a four-hour Cabinet meeting.

Before joining the Cabinet he refused to make any statement except that his delegation had done the job for which it was sent to Washington, namely to clarify the non-discriminatory clause of the Anglo-American Loan Agreement. Sid Wilfrid added that he was satisfied with the American government's "extreme, helpful understanding of Britain's economic case."

The Cabinet's secretariat flatly refused information on the meeting beyond the formal statement that Cabinet decisions will be announced later "this week."

It was learned unofficially that Sir Wilfrid told Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, at their meeting in Washington last Saturday that he would convey to Prime Min-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Sees Bad Effect from Higher Admissions

CINCINNATI, Aug. 25.—"Some producers are upping their prices on certain pictures more than 60 per cent," and "at present on a basis of dollar revenue at the box-office the price increases appear to be a profitable move.

(*Continued on page* 6)

Exhibitors Cannot Avoid Tax: Myers

Washington, Aug. 25. — Theatre owners obviously will have to pay what Ascap is asking, but Ascap's action in raising exhibtors' rates for the public performance of music of the society's members, between 300 and 500 per cent, will give Allied additional fuel for its fight against the organization, Abram F. Myers, Allied States' general counsel, declared here today. Allied will intensify its fight in both Congress and the courts, he added.

Myers revealed he had protested the proposed increase to Ascap officials at a recent meeting here.

Tax Receipts Are Up 10%

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. — Admission tax collections were up approximately 10 per cent in the fiscal year ending July 30, 1947, compared with receipts in the previous year, the Treasury revealed here today.

Collections in fiscal 1947 totaled $456,223,221, an increase of $40,955,354 over the fiscal 1946 figure of $415,267,866.

These figures cover taxes paid on admissions to legitimate theatres, concerts, night clubs and sports events as well as motion picture theatres.

(*Continued on page* 6)

U. S. Lists Income of the Top Industry Earners

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres and of Fox West Coast, was top U. S. income earner in 1945 with $568,143, according to figures released here today by the Treasury Department.

The salaries listed are gross and do not give effect to large Federal and state income taxes.

Leo McCarey, as a Paramount producer-director, was the second highest paid film figure, ranking fifth on the national list with $355,426. Last year McCarey led the national income list with $1,113,035, of which $1,038,035 was from his share in the profits of "Going My Way."

Six other Hollywoodites, including Betty Grable, top woman wage earner on the list with $208,000, were among 30 wage earners who were reported as making more than $200,000.

Several leading motion picture companies, however, were not included in the current report. When they are listed in the supplemental report which the Treasury expects to release at the end of the year, Hollywood can be expected to dominate the national scene even more strongly, as it has in previous years.

Among the companies not included in today's report were M-G-M, RKO,

(*Continued on page* 6)

ASCAP Will Meet Theatre Owners on Tax

Won't Seek Meetings but Will Talk to Callers

Abandoning previous plans, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will not seek meetings with exhibitor leaders regarding its 300 per cent music tax increase, but will discuss the matter with any theatremen who approach it, Herman Greenberg, Ascap's licensing chief, said here yesterday.

Meanwhile theatremen here have begun private discussions of the matter and indications are that the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, whose membership comprises the majority of principal circuits in New York, will convene shortly, possibly this week, to consider joint action.

Greenberg said that in addition to maintaining an "open-door" policy at his New York office, he will instruct his field representatives to explain the

(*Continued on page* 6)

ATOI Threatens to Sue Distributors

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 25. — Suits against distributors for defamation of an exhibitor's good name are threatened by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana when film companies take court action to force "unreasonable demands" on exhibitors.

Citing the case of Peter Mallers, Fort Wayne exhibitor, who has been

(*Continued on page* 8)

Small-Budget Film Costs Up 100-200%

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 25.—Reporting to the membership in a letter accompanying a ballot for approval of the contract signed with the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, the Screen Actors Guild stated that an investigation conducted during negotiations revealed that the production

(*Continued on page* 6)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

Personal Mention

BENEDICT BOGEAUS, United Artists producer, and CARL LESERMAN, executive vice-president of Benedict Bogeaus Prod., arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

SIR SIDNEY CLIFT, former president the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, London, and LADY CLIFT will sail from England on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* tomorrow for a visit here.

•

L. L. MOGUY, French director, and MRS. MOGUY, SUZANNA FOSTER and GODFREY TEARLE are among passengers who arrived here yesterday on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

LOUIS EPSTEIN, who has been on Columbia's executive staff, will leave the company Thursday to resume personal management of AL JOLSON in California.

•

SI SEADLER, M-G-M advertising manager, and ERNEST EMERLING, Loew's advertising-publicity manager, will fly to the Coast Friday from New York.

•

JOHN K. M. MCCAFFERY, of M-G-M's Eastern story department, and MRS. MCCAFFERY have become parents of a boy.

•

GERTRUDE BUNCHEZ has resigned as publicity director of Loew Theatres in Baltimore. WILLIAM WILLIFORD succeeds her.

•

TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio exploitation director, returned here yesterday from Dallas and New Orleans.

•

HOWARD LE SIEUR, U. A. assistant advertising and publicity director, has returned from a short vacation.

•

A. W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, left here yesterday for San Francisco.

•

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio national publicity chief, is due back here today from Hollywood.

•

E. D. GAW, Altec service inspector in Dallas, and MRS. GAW have become parents of a son.

•

NAT ROSEN, Baltimore theatre operator, has returned there from a fishing trip in Maine.

•

FRANK HENSLER, M-G-M assistant division sales manager, is in Cleveland from New York.

•

DAVID L. LOEW, Enterprise executive, arrived in town yesterday from the Coast.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Allied Artists producer, is due here today from the Coast.

•

DAVID HEMPSTEAD has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

RICHARD F. WALSH, president of IATSE, is in Hollywood.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

WHOLLY unofficial, but nonetheless interesting, estimates within the industry are that savings very closely resembling $100,000,000 annually may be realized from the current economy programs inaugurated by the principal companies.

By far the major part of that, you will not be disconsolate on hearing, is to be rose water shaken from the luxuriant Hollywood blooms.

One large company has set its sights upon a $15,000,000 annual saving, mostly at its studios. Another estimates its economy program will trim $11,000,000 annually from expenditures. The trimming programs of eight or nine additional companies are in proportion.

The British market accounted for $68,000,000.

If the economies actually are achieved; if they are wise ones and result in increased efficiency, and if they improve or, at least, do not impair quality of product, then it is apparent that the industry will have placed itself in a position in which it need no longer be dependent upon foreign market revenue for profitable operations.

That is an eminently sound and desirable goal. If achieved, it will raise the industry immeasurably in the eyes of investors and the entire financial world.

It is no secret that investors and bankers have looked and do look upon this industry as a profligate one, largely because its widely known extravagances and waste have been permitted to swell to the point at which the industry no longer was able to live within its domestic income, despite the richness of that income.

When it has learned to do so once again it will not only have regained its own health but will have earned the respect of the financial and business worlds around it.

There is some amusement in the thought that a foreign Socialist government and its Leftist trade head may yet prove to have made the largest contribution to such a result.

• •

As has been the case so many times in the past, organized exhibition dawdled endlessly while its adversary continued to move against it..

That routine was religiously followed by exhibition in the case of the increased music taxes for theatres, finally announced last week by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers. Ascap had been guilty of dawdling itself, which could have been turned to exhibitor advantage had there been any disposition on the part of organized exhibition and its leadership to take up the challenge tossed by Ascap six months ago when it first revealed its intention of marking up theatre music license fees.

As a matter of fact, Ascap management delayed so long on the projected move that its board of directors finally stepped into the picture itself; put the theatre rap in the hands of different executives in its fold and demanded immediate action.

It has been historic Ascap policy to pick the weak spots in its adversaries' lines and establish a beachhead thereon.

It is a commentary by an unprejudiced source on the sorry state of organized exhibition today that Ascap saw no need to pick a soft link in exhibition this time for its first sally with the new gouge.

With organized exhibition as it is today, there was no need to employ strategy.

Ascap chose the frontal attack.

Why shouldn't it, after exhibition had demonstrated that in six months' time it was not capable of organizing a single manifestation of resistance?

•

The present fix in which exhibition finds itself with respect to Ascap naturally suggests what might have been done had there been exhibitor unity, or any semblance of it, in the industry.

Ascap could not ignore, as it now proposes to do, a united exhibitor front.

While exhibitor leaders mumbled threats, mulled suits already discredited in the courts, piddled around with talk of anti-Ascap legislation and other puerile moves that would take years to get results, if ever they got any, Ascap was deciding how much it would soak them—when their current licenses expire.

The first of them will expire by the end of next month and most of them by the end of the year.

As of now, exhibition hasn't a single, concrete plan that will prevent the new licenses from being put into effect, or to invalidate them, perhaps years after they have been in effect.

Metro Opens 37th Foreign Showcase

M-G-M's newest foreign showcase, the Cine Metro in Bogota, Colombia, will open tomorrow.

The opening brings to 37 the number of theatres operated by M-G-M abroad. It is the fourth in Colombia, the others being the Metro theatres in Medellin and Barranquilla, and the recently opened Teusaquillo in Bogota. A fifth is under construction in Cali, Colombia.

Dinner for Contee

BALTIMORE, Aug. 25.—A testimonial dinner is planned by the Variety Club, Baltimore Tent No. 19, in honor of Gordon Contee of the 20th-Fox exchange in Washington on Sept. 29. Contee formerly was a Warner salesman in Baltimore, later went to 20th-Fox in the same capacity, and recently was promoted to the Washington office. Barry Goldman is chairman of the dinner committee and Sam Tabor is in charge of special events.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'Copacabana'
Groucho MARX
Carmen MIRANDA
IN PERSON
THELMA CARPENTER
Extra!
HANK LADD
Plus Others

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
in Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

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Approve 24 Houses, To Cost $720,985

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25. — Twenty-four more theatre construction projects, to cost $720,985, have been approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter. They include a theatre, to cost $125,000, approved for R. P. Lefebvre, Richmond, Cal., and one for $11[illegible]00, for Monterey Theatres, at M[illegible]ey, Cal. Other projects approved by the OHE are:

United California Theatres, Inc., Turlock, Cal., $90,000; Martin and Thompson Theatres, Pulaski County, Ga., $60,000; George A. Giles Co., Framingham, Mass., $56,500; C. V. Caver, Dallas, $40,000; Leon H., Alex, Robert and Irvin Robbins, Gainesville, Fla., $29,000; Clara H. Crider, Dixon, Mo., $13,000; John P. Tender, Lorain, O., $19,800; Preston Bank, Fulton, Mo., $17,500, and W. H. Steed, Salisbury, N. C., $9,400.

Also: Major John Henry Haring, La Jolla, Cal., $22,000; Carl F. Neitzel, Juneau, Wis.; A. H. Tholen, Clara City, Minn., $20,000; A. C. Clark, Loganville, Ga.; Tammen's, Inc., Yankton, S. D., $10,700; Grant Rosethyn, Underwood, N. D., $15,600; and Calderon, Salasporras, El Paso, Tex.

Also: Nicholas Johnson, Mainitowoc, Wis.; J. Real Neth Theatres Co., Columbus, O.; Robert L. Lippers, San Francisco; Jack H. Hoffman, Greenup, Ky., $11,500; Okanogan Valley Theatres, Inc., Groville, Wash., $21,750; and Raymond J. Syufy, Twp. of Vallejo, Solano Co., Cal.

Also, construction of three new theatres in the Du Pont Circle area of the District of Columbia are planned. One will be operated by the Pix Theatre Co., which has theatres in Washington, Norfolk and Philadelphia. The second will be leased to the Harry Brandt Theatres. No operator has been named for the third theatre, on which construction will begin in two weeks. All three theatres will have a seating capacity of approximately 500 each and will show "art" pictures.

DevonshireFranchise To King Enterprises

BOSTON, Aug. 25. — King Enterprises, owned and operated by Julian King, has acquired the Devonshire franchise for the Des Moines, Omaha and Kansas City districts in which he operates exchanges.

Beginning Sept. 1, King will release his first three pictures, "Storm in a Teacup," "Under the Red Robe," and "Dark Journey."

Editors in Radio Debate

Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald*; Irene Thirer, motion picture editor of the *New York Post*; Eileen Creelman, motion picture editor of the *New York Sun*, and Jack McManus will participate in the "American Forum of the Air" discussion tonight over the Mutual broadcast of a program entitled "Is There Too Much Propaganda in Movies?"

Army Selling Theatres

HARVARD, Neb. Aug. 25.—Some 142 buildings, including two theatres, at the Harvard Army Air Field will be sold at a spot sale tomorrow by the War Assets Administration. Installed fixtures are included in the offering. Everything will be sold "as-is," "where-is," and on all cash basis.

Hollywood

Hollywood, Aug. 25

SCHEDULING six pictures to start during the next six weeks, two of which are in the big-budget classification, production activity at Republic goes into high gear again. First of the planned six is "Outlaws of Ghost Town", a new one in the Alan (Rocky) Lane series, with Phil Ford directing for producer Gordon Kay. Next will be "Slippy McGee", adaptation of the well known Marie Conway novel. In the top roles will be Donald Barry and Roy Rogers' former leading lady, Dale Evans. Lou Brock is the producer. One of the two top-budget films, with Allan Dwan as producer and director, "End of the Rainbow", will follow shortly afterward. Others are "In Old Los Angeles", starring William Elliott and John Carroll; an Al Pearce starrer, "The City Slicker", and "California Firebrand", a Monte Hale-Adrian Booth musical Western in Trucolor, with Mel Tucker as producer. The latter four are set to start during September.

•

Paramount's Pine-Thomas production unit also is ready to shift to high gear, a fall filming program that will start on Sept. 4, with "Caged Fury", a drama laid in a circus zoo. Richard Denning has been cast for one of the top parts. "Speed to Spare" will follow, late in September, with "Hard To Kill" and "Waterfront at Midnight" next on the shooting agenda. Two of the six pictures which the Pine-Thomas contract with Paramount calls for have had advance production; they are "Big Town Scandal" and "Big Town After Dark."

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER has set Fred Wilcox to direct the studio's new Lassie film, "The Hills of Home," which together with the canine star will feature Edmund Gwenn, Janet Leigh and Donald Crisp. Wilcox recently completed a chore on "The Birds and the Bees." Robert Sisk will produce "The Hills of Home." . . .

•

Warners has named David Butler to direct its romantic comedy, "The Last Fling." The veteran director recently completed "Two Guys From Texas."

•

Joe Pasternak has selected Leslie Kardos to direct M-G-M's new Technicolor musical, "A Date with Judy", which co-stars Elizabeth Taylor and Jane Powell. . . . "The Captain Was a Lady" will be William Pereira's first producer assignment under his new RKO Radio contract, which calls for three pictures a year. The others to follow will be "Bed of Roses" and "Dark Medallion". . . . Monogram has signed Sid Luft to produce a series co-starring Jackie Cooper and Jackie Coogan, which now gives the studio 17 producers, the largest lineup in its history.

•

Lana Turner has been cast for Clark Gable's next starring film for M-G-M, "Homecoming." It will be her third dramatic portrayal during the past year. Mervyn LeRoy will direct "Homecoming," with Sidney Franklin as producer.

Irving Berlin Song To Freedom Drive

Irving Berlin presented his new song, "The Freedom Train," to Thomas D'A. Brophy, president of the American Heritage Foundation, at ceremonies here yesterday. The Foundation is sponsoring the special train exhibit which will leave Philadelphia on Sept. 17 for a tour of the 48 states, carrying more than 100 historical American documents.

Inspiration for the Freedom Train song, Berlin said, occurred after he had attended a White House conference in the late spring called by U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark for the purpose of assembling leading citizens to discuss the need for the Foundation's program aimed at raising the level of citizenship.

Mobilization of the nation's film, press, radio and advertising facilities for the purpose of aiding every American community to participate in the forthcoming year of rededication to the principles of American liberty was announced by Brophy. Industry participants in the program include The Motion Picture Association, Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association, and Screen Actors' Guild. In furtherance of this non-partisan citizens' program, motion picture theatres have pledged cooperation, it was reported.

Appointment of James Sauter as national chairman of the public relations and special events division of the Foundation, was announced.

Ten More Pictures Rated by Legion

Of 10 pictures currently reviewed by the National Legion of Decency, one has been classified C and two classed B.

In class A-1 are "The Dragnet," Screen Guild; "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," RKO Radio; "Son of Rusty," Columbia. In Class-AII are 'Burning Cross," Screen Guild; "Life with Father," Warner Brothers; "Scarface," Bell Pictures, a reissue; "Sweet Genevieve," Columbia. In class B are "Frieda," Rank-U-I; "Hell's Angels," Bell Pictures, a reissue. "Black Narcissus," Rank-U-I, was placed in C.

Beginning Sept. 4, it was announced, the printed weekly list of films classified by the Legion of Decency will be issued bi-weekly.

Charles Spainhour, 71

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 25. — Funeral services will be held in Greensburg, Kans., tomorrow for Charles A. Spainhour, Kansas theatre operator, who died here Saturday at the age of 71, after having undergone an operation a week ago. He is survived by the widow, who lives in Greensburg, and a son of Springfield, Mo.

Morris Leaving S.R.O.

Claud Morris, who has been in charge of exploitation for Selznick Releasing Organization, is reported to be joining the Edward Small office here in a similar capacity.

Indiana Group Hits 20th-Fox's 'Amber'

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 25.—A membership bulletin of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana charges that 20th Century-Fox intends to "exploit the public's curiosity" concerning "Forever Amber" with 1,000 simultaneous bookings. The organization alleges that this could insure against unfavorable word-of-mouth publicity.

The Indiana group begins its attack with a question: "Why won't Fox screen 'Forever Amber' for buyers?" With that ATOI states that the film company's sales representatives in its territory have never discussed the box-office merits of the picture but instead "only one sales argument has been put forward." This, ATOI asserts, is "that we (20th-Fox) have spent $6,400,000 making this picture and we have to get off the hook and the exhibitor is expected to take Fox off that hook."

The bulletin goes on with its report on the 1,000 bookings and raises another question: "Is Fox afraid of what word-of-mouth publicity will do to this picture? It is the opinion of this office that all signs point to the fact that the Fox sales organization has no confidence in the picture. They know that Mr. Zanuck has made a horrible mistake and they are going to try to get him out."

The bulletin tells the membership to "demand that you be shown this picture before you buy . . . if you fall for 'Amber' at high admissions and 50-50 you are setting a precedent for Fox's next one, 'Captain from Castile'; also Metro's 'Green Dolphin Street,' Warner's 'Life With Father' and others, *ad infinitum.*"

Lewis Innerarity, 60, Film Attorney, Dies

BRONXVILLE, N. Y., Aug. 25.—Lewis A. R. Innerarity. 60, former general counsel for the old Pathe, and a leader in the formation of the old MPPDA, died here yesterday at his home. He was a partner in the firm of Coudert Brothers, New York.

Innerarity, a well known trial lawyer, had supervised the contracts of many motion picture stars when with Pathe. He was with Pathe, in New York and on the West Coast, for 15 years, first as secretary-treasurer and later as vice-president and general counsel. He was also former general counsel for RKO-Pathe, Inc.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Katharine Bushnell Innerarity; a daughter, Katharine H., and two sisters, Mrs. John Cutler of Laurel, Md., and Mrs. D. I. Blake, Washington.

Heart Attack Fatal To 'Ching' Allen

C. W. (Ching) Allen, 48, Prairie district manager for United Artists, died suddenly of a heart attack Sunday in his home at Mission, Kansas, the company reported here yesterday.

Allen joined United Artists in 1942 as Atlanta branch manager after having held various sales posts with Vitagraph and RKO Radio for 25 years. In 1946, he was promoted to Prairie district manager for U. A. with supervision over the Kansas City, Omaha and St. Louis branches. He is survived by the widow, Lorena, a daughter, Mrs. Marguerite Wall, and a son, Robert.

They All Agree MITTY'S

Journal-American

"Hilarious entertainment topping even Kaye's previous fine films. Goldwyn's usual lavish care, taste and staging!"

NEW YORK
Daily Mirror

"Danny Kaye is 100 per cent here. Goldwyn need not dream of profits. They'll be there!"

Chicago Daily Tribune

"You can mark up another success for Danny Kaye. Very, very funny from beginning to end!"

New York Post

"You will delight in seven characterizations. Each one a gem!"

THE CHICAGO SUN

"It's Danny Kaye's best vehicle since 'Up In Arms!'"

NEW YORK
DAILY NEWS

"Danny Kaye's best picture!"

Hollywood
By HEDDA HOPPER

"Danny Kaye gets off his best characterizations to date!"

PM Daily

"Packed with laughs!"

The New York Times

"A big, colorful show and a good one!"

NEW YORK
The Sun

"Wildly funny!"

KEEP YOUR EYE ON MITTY

The Secret Life

MIGHTY!!

LIFE	"Movie of the week. Highly entertaining!"
TIME	"Danny Kaye's funniest. In every sense out of this world!"
PHOTOPLAY	"Meet Walter Mitty and pin a medal on him. Will bet you come out shouting for more!"
VARIETY	"Better medicine for a box office suffering from malnutrition of laughs can hardly be imagined!"
MOTION PICTURE HERALD	"This Kaye-color-Goldwyn combination should be a goldmine for the exhibitor, as easy to sell as cotton candy at a circus!"
The Hollywood Reporter	"The public is flocking to 'The Secret Life of Walter Mitty.' Mr. Goldwyn has a hit on his hands!"
DAILY VARIETY DAILY	"A dazzling technicolor dish that gives full play to Danny Kaye's uncommon talent. Another feather in producer Samuel Goldwyn's cap!"
BOXOFFICE	"Your money's worth in laughs and lavishness!"
THE Film DAILY	"Surpassing all previous Kaye films, this one is fine entertainment for every audience!"
SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW	"Top-notch entertainment with every indication of scoring heavily at the box office!"

of Walter Mitty

Entertainment in the Goldwyn manner

US Lists Income

(*Continued from page 1*)

Universal and Warner Brothers. Previously these firms have supplied such leading wage earners as Louis B. Mayer, Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, J. Cheever Cowdin and last year's top-ranking woman salary earner, Deanna Durbin.

Hollywood's top wage earners on today's list were:

Skouras, who received $130,000 from Fox West Coast and $438,143 in "other compensation" from National Theatres. Last year Skouras ranked third with $393,000. McCarey, whose $355,426 came from "other compensation" from Paramount, presumably from additional profits from "Going My Way". Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, who ranked ninth nationally with $260,000 in straight salary. Last year Zanuck was tenth on the national list with $260,833. Harry Cohn, president, Columbia Pictures Corp., 16th nationally, $233,600 including $15,600 from "other compensation". Betty Grable, $208,000 from 20th Century-Fox, $36,000 more than reported for 1944. Olivia de Havilland, $206,944, from Paramount. Fred MacMurray, $203,525, from 20th Century-Fox to rank 24th nationally, a sharp drop from his No. 4 spot in 1944, when he earned $391,217. Spyros P. Skouras, president, 20th Century-Fox, $201,600; in 1944 he reported $255,907.

Several people listed today will presumably move higher in the ranking when their compensation from other companies, not on today's list, is reported.

There were a total of 102 film industry people on today's list. Twentieth Century-Fox paid 42 employees more than $75,000 in 1945, Paramount paid 31, Columbia 12, and Vanguard Films six.

Industry people listed in the $175,000-$200,000 bracket were: Maureen O'Hara, $190,666; Henry Ginsberg, Paramount, $189,583; Ray Milland, Paramount, $185,833; Joseph L. Mankiewicz, 20th Century-Fox, $182,000; William Perlberg, 20th Century-Fox, $182,000; J. Mitchell Leisen, Paramount, $180,202; John M. Stahl, 20th Century-Fox, $178,916; Bing Crosby, Paramount, $175,000.

$150,000-$175,000 Bracket

Those in the $150,000-$175,000 group were: Dore Schary, Vanguard, $170,803 (salary, $111,083; other compensation; $59,719); Bryan Foy, 20th Century-Fox, $169,000; Lloyd Bacon, 20th Century-Fox, $165,708; Adolph Zukor, Paramount, $159,400 (salary, $104,000; bonus, $50,000; other compensation, $5,400); George E. Seaton, 20th Century-Fox, $156,000; George Marshall, Paramount, $156,000.

Also, Barney Balaban, Paramount, $156,000; Lewis D. Lighton, 20th Century-Fox, $155,666; Gradwell Sears, United Artists, $153,838 (salary, $130,000; bonus, $23,858); Thomas Mitchell, Twentieth Century-Fox, $152,916; Albert Hackett and Frances Goodrich Hackett, Paramount, $151,875.

Also, Gregory Ratoff, 20th Century-Fox, $150,500; and William Bendix, Hal Roach Studios, $150,266.

In the $125,000-$150,000 salary bracket were: Lamar Trotti, 20th Century - Fox, $149,520; Harry Tugend, Paramount, $149,350; Dick Haymes, Twentieth Century-Fox, $143,333; Barbara Stanwyck, Paramount, $140,000; Al Hall, Columbia, $139,083; Seton I. Miller, Paramount, $138,400; Neil F. Agnew, Vanguard, $137,525 (salary, $70,425; other compensation, $67,100); Charles Boyer, Twentieth Century-Fox, $135,000; Eddie Bracken, Paramount, $134,041; John Farrow, Paramount, $132,333; Walter R. Lang, 20th Century-Fox, $131,444; Otto Preminger, 20th Century-Fox, $131,000; Ernst Lubitsch, Twentieth Century-Fox, $130,000.

Also, Henry Hathaway, 20th Century-Fox, $130,000; Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount, $130,000; Jack Cohn, Columbia, $130,000 (salary, $117,000; other compensation, $13,000); Don Hartman, Columbia, $129,000.

$100,000-$125,000 Group

The 23 film names listed in the $100,000-$125,000 salary bracket were: Harry James, Twentieth Century-Fox, $121,666; Charles Brackett, Paramount, $119,000; Elmer C. Rhoden, Fox Midwest, $118,030 (salary, $39,000; bonus, $71,230; other compensation, $7,800); Bert Allenberg, $117,250; Ginger Rogers, Vanguard, $117,159 (all listed as "other compensation"); Rita Hayworth, Columbia, $117,000; Virginia Van Upp, Columbia, $117,000; Frank Butler, Paramount, $117,000; Carmen Miranda, Twentieth Century-Fox, $115,000.

Also, Gene Tierney, Twentieth Century-Fox, $114,916; Dorothy Lamour, Paramount, $112,372; George Jessel, 20th Century Century-Fox, $110,500; Tyrone Power, Twentieth Century-Fox, $110,400; Thomas J. Connors, 20th Century-Fox, $110,100 (salary, $104,000; other compensation, $6,100); Robert Cummings, Paramount, $110,000; Sidney Lanfield, Paramount, $108,333; Alan Ladd, Paramount, $107,000; John Balaban, B. and K. Management Corp., $104,000; Phil Berg, $103,091.

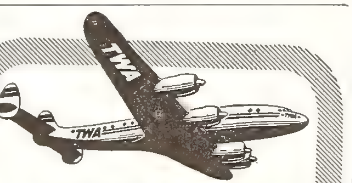
Also, Betty Hutton, Paramount, $102,583; J. M. Schine, Schine Chain Theatres, $102,200; Alice Faye, Twentieth Century-Fox, $101,666; Billy Wilder, Paramount, $100,666.

In the $75,000-$100,000 group were: Brian Donlevy, Paramount, $99,708; F. H. Ricketson, Jr., Fox Inter-Mountain, $97,674 (salary, $64,900; bonus, $27,574; other compensation, $5,200); Henry King, 20th Century-Fox, $96,666; Irving Cummings, 20th Century-Fox, $96,333; Alfred Newman, 20th Century-Fox, $93,862; John Cromwell, 20th Century-Fox, $93,500; Ben Hecht, Vanguard, $93,333; A. Schneider, Columbia, $92,516 (salary, $84,283; other compensation, $8,233); Charles Vidor, Columbia, $91,666; Paul M. Jones, Paramount, $91,000.

Also, Karl O. Tunberg, Paramount, $91,000; Paulette Goddard, Paramount, $90,000; Nate Spingold, Columbia, $89,845 (salary, $84,643; other compensation, $5,200); H. Bruce Humberstone, 20th Century-Fox, $87,250; Lew Schreiber, 20th Century-Fox, $87,000; King Vidor, Vanguard, $86,666; Edmund Goulding, 20th Century-Fox, $85,000.

Also, Charles Feldman, Famous Artists Corp., $82,425; Lloyd Nolan, 20th Century-Fox, $81,891; Samuel Hoffenstein, 20th Century-Fox, $81,850; Charles M. Reagan, Paramount, $81,735; A. Montague, Columbia, $81,000; William C. Michel, 20th Century-Fox, $80,508 (salary, $73,708; other compensation, $6,800); Steve Broidy, Monogram Pictures, $78,788 (salary, $20,800; commission, $36,264; bonus, $21,724).

Also, Joseph Moskowitz, 20th Century-Fox, $78,500; Kenneth MacGowan, Paramount, $78,000; William A. Bacher, 20th Century-Fox, $78,000; Richard W. Day, 20th Century-Fox, $78,000; Austin C. Keough, Paramount, $73,000; Irving Briskin, Columbia, $78,000; Mack Gordon, 20th Century-Fox, $77,833; Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard, $77,166 (salary, $52,166; bonus, $25,000); Benjamin B. Kahane, Columbia, $76,791.



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Higher Admissions

(*Continued from page 1*)

But on the basis of total attendance and revenue of comparative, non-premium priced pictures the plus-margin gross on the added-price pictures isn't astounding," so declares E. B. Radcliffe theatre editor of the *Cincinnati Enquirer,* writing editorially under the caption "Price Rise in Movie Tickets May Kill the Golden Goose," and referring specifically to "Life with Father" and "Duel in the Sun."

"Moreover," Radcliffe continues, "the rise of written and oral protests which sideline observers hear from members of the movie-going public is hardly a favorable omen for the future of the presently profitable extra fare policy.

"The industry seems to be considering a double standard for its pictures, one for standard releases, and a half higher for presumably superior and more costly productions.

"Will the double standard cause the public grudgingly to pay the toll for the premium pictures and stay away from all but the exceptional standard releases," he asks.

"From here the upped admission price deal looks like the boys are giving the business to their golden eggs. For quick dollars they're sacrificing future success."

Ascap Will Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

new Ascap rate structure, and to point up what he described as the necessity for putting it into effect, if exhibitors in the field call upon them.

He said that actually theatres have gained profit through the past several years by Ascap's holding to its old license scales, explaining that in his opinion the new plan should ha[illegible]en adopted long before now.

Expounding on what he contends to be ample justification for the increased rates, Greenberg said the old fees were set at the height of the depression and theatre income has since multiplied. He further asserted the new plan is in complete conformity with the non-discriminatory terms of the consent decree entered into between Ascap and the Government in 1941.

Greenberg made it clear that Ascap intends to collect the dollar equivalent of the full potential income from a capacity evening performance, at adult prices, and loge-type seat prices will be counted in.

For example, Radio City Music Hall would pay for a year's annual Ascap license $1.92 for each of its 944 reserved seats and $1.04 for each of its 2,256 general admission seats, the 20 per cent tax, of course, not being counted. This amounts to a total of $7,278.72. Under the old system, the theatre paid to Ascap 20 cents for each of its 6,200 seats, or a total of $1,240.

While Greenberg said he preferred not to venture an estimate of the amount of additional income which Ascap could figure on with the adoption of the new plan, industry observers agreed it would mean over-all increases of 300 per cent and upward in exhibition's Ascap bill, or approximately $3,000,000 more per year than Ascap now collects from theatres.

Small-Budget Films

(*Continued from page 1*)

cost of films budgeted under $100,000 increased between 150 and 200 per cent during the past six years, while revenue increased less than 33 per cent, with the result that 150 fewer such films are being made annually.

Report states, "investigation showed that the cost of cast has not contributed appreciably to the problem. Nevertheless, we face the fact that actors have lost and will continue to lose employment if the decrease in the production of small-budget pictures should continue. We also believe the decrease in the production of the small pictures has led in some measure to the greater use of reissues."

The contract, signed last week, makes special concessions in overtime scale for players in Westerns costing not more than $45,000, and features of not more than $95,000.

Tax Receipts Up

(*Continued from page 1*)

Although the Treasury now issues monthly breakdowns of film theatre taxes, this policy was not adopted until last May, and no breakdown is available for the earlier period. Collections from motion picture theatres have usually been regarded as accounting for slightly less than 80 per cent of the total tax collections.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Business is brisk despite the heat spell. "Life with Father" at advanced prices, and "Down to Earth," are very big, while "Fantasia" is also heading for a high figure. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 26-29:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c-75c) 5th week, on a moveover from three weeks at the Shubert and an opening week at the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)
DEEP VALLEY (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000)
DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO)—KEITH'S (1,500) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-75c: $7,500)
FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE GHOST GOES WEST (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **SIX GUN SERENADE (Mono.)** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $30,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-75c-70c-75c: $10,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)
TWILIGHT ON THE RIO GRANDE (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY (Mono.)** Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)

BALTIMORE

Continued hot weather, holdovers and re-releases aren't giving any help to business here, which could stand a substantial boost. With the exception of "Mother Wore Tights" and "Desperation," box offices are doing just about average, or in some instances not quite that well. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 28:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)
BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44cc-56c) last 4 days of 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $12,000)
DESPERATE (RKO Radio) — HIPPODROME (2,205)(29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $17,500)
MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16.500)
MOONLIGHT SONATA (Equity)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $2.250. (Average: $3,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M) reissue) —CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)
WYOMING (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,500)

ATLANTA

Business generally is a little off here this week on account of the hot weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Aug. 27:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $5,700)
MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET (20th-Fox) —FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $19,000)
CUT CALIFORNIA WAY (Rep.) and ROLLING HOME (Kay)—(2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)
TARZAN AND THE HUNTRESS (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,900)

TORONTO

With the first postwar Canadian National Exhibition in full swing, Toronto first-run theatres encountered real competition but with residents starting to return from summer trips, grosses were not too bad. Estimated receipts for the warm week ending Aug. 29:

MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,300)
THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $13,800)
SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,400)
THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,300. (Average: $14,800)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)
TRAIL STREET (RKO Radio) and A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $6,800)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)
THE TWO MRS. CARROLLS (WB)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $9,500)

Consider Color 'Lab'

Mexico City, Aug. 25.—Possibilities of establishing color laboratories here are being examined by J. Robert Bren, ex-RKO producer, and W. Crespinel, president of Cine Color. Bren is also completing plans for the production in Mexico of his picture, "Jaguar Hill."

Promotes Two Bookers

Two M-G-M bookers in the field have been promoted to salesmen, Max Shabason at Pittsburgh and Robert Morrell at Cincinnati. Shabason has been with M-G-M since 1928, and Morrell has been with the company on and off since 1933.

WB Signs Miller

Hollywood, Aug. 25. — Seton I. Miller has been signed by Jack L. Warner, executive producer for Warner Brothers, to a long term contract as writer-producer. His first assignment will be "Colt 45."

McCausland in Shift

Dallas, Aug. 25. — Ross McCausland has resigned as manager of the Telenews Theatre here to accept the post of manager of the Delman, the Adelman and Sachs organization's almost completed suburban theatre.

6 Canadian Films to IFB

Chicago, Aug. 25. — International Film Bureau has acquired 16mm. distribution rights in the United States to six color films from the National Film Board of Canada.

It's Not Pictures They Pay to See

Eldora, Ia., Aug. 25. — "Maximum comfort" of a theatre, rather than the picture it's showing, was given as the reason for patrons' attendance by most people replying to a poll conducted by a circuit of 50 theatres, Allied ITO of Iowa-Nebraska reports in its current bulletin from Leo Wolcott, chairman.

"This proves that the picture is not the only important factor in obtaining patrons," Wolcott states. "How many times," he asks, "have you stood in your lobby and heard them ask, 'What's playing tonight?', after they had bought tickets?"

The lessons to be drawn, he says, are: Keep your theatre clean, attractive and comfortable; play reasonably good pictures, pass up the "dogs" and advanced admission price films; exploit the pictures you know are good; sell your theatre as a community institution; ignore the guys who tell you exhibitor showmanship is dead and that "you're more interested in popcorn in your lobby than the picture on your screen."

'Unconquered' Contest

In connection with the promotional campaign for Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered," Paramount has launched a contest in all its branch cities to find the person best epitomizing the unconquered spirit of the American nation. In each city the contest will be under the sponsorship of a local newspaper. The national winner will be a guest of President Truman.

Ladd and Lamour
make news when they
make love
in
Paramount's
"Wild Harvest"

Johnston Presses Foreign Discussions

Washington, Aug. 25.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, reportedly discussed the industry's general foreign situation and the British film tax at luncheon today with Secretary of the Treasury Snyder and during an afternoon meeting with Acting Secretary of Commerce William C. Foster.

Johnston is expected to remain in Washington for "some time," indicating the MPA's feeling that the next move on the Dalton tax is up to the British.

Eady Reports

(*Continued from page* 1)

ister Attlee Johnston's arguments and suggestions concerning the Dalton film tax. There was a specific understanding that the Saturday discussions were informal, any action on the film tax being completely beyond Eady's present instructions.

It is understood that Eady was particularly impressed with the heavy burden thrust upon Hollywood's independent producers by the Dalton film tax. The independents' position was described to Eady by James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Prod. and representative of the Society of Independent M. P. Producers.

It is also understood here that Johnston again suggested "freezing" of American film revenue in Britain as an alternative to direct taxation, against the guaranteed good-will screening of British pictures in America, thereby creating a special "film loan" to Britain.

Any American industry suggestion that Britain first eliminate the Dalton tax as a consideration for counter proposals from the American industry is doomed to be flatly rejected here, in the opinion of high government officials.

One well-informed source said: "Such a suggestion shows the Americans still don't appreciate the blunt, inescapable fact that Britain currently simply hasn't any dollars with which to buy Hollywood films."

There is a strong rumor here that the suggestion was made, though whether at Saturday's Washington meeting or not, is not clear, that the British film tax should be made payable after it has been earned at the British box offices, instead of before.

Western Candy Picks McLean as Ad Chief

Los Angeles, Aug. 25.—Tony McLean, formerly in charge of promotion and exploitation at the Warner Brothers studios, has been appointed advertising and sales promotion manager of Western Candy Distributing System by Herbert R. Ebenstein, general manager. McLean was also formerly assistant promotion manager of United Artists.

Thomas B. Carson was named supervisor of operations of the company.

Favorite Films Drive

Moe Kerman, president of Favorite Films Corp., has set a date and collection drive, to run indefinitely.

British Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

representing the independents.

SIMPP has voiced objections to any type of "freeze" of remittances by England while MPA is on record in favor of a block on 25 per cent of net earnings in Britain.

Mulvey said that no joint action has been decided upon and that no proposal of an alternate to the British *ad valorem* tax was presented to the British loan delegation in weekend talks in Washington.

Must Cut Film Dollars To One-Fourth, Says Eady

Meanwhile, following last Saturday's meeting in Washington of industry representatives with Sir Wilfrid Eady, prior to the latter's departure for London, it was apparent that no compromise proposal for the British 75 per cent tax has yet been made which would meet the industry's needs and which, at the same time, would help to solve Britain's severe dollar shortage.

It was learned that Sir Wilfrid's delegation had told government officials in Washington that whether Britain stuck by the Dalton tax or not it was convinced that it could spend only one-fourth as many dollars for American films in the future as it had in the past.

This would indicate that even if some substitute is found, it will not be nearly as mild as the 25 per cent "freeze" originally advocated by the Motion Picture Association.

In addition to the industry meeting with Sir Wilfrid on Saturday, State and Commerce Department officials also expressed the government's views on the film tax to other members of the British financial delegation before their departure for London.

In consequence of the latter conversations it is believed that Sir Wilfrid will report to his government that the U. S. industry and the U. S. Government are lined up solidly against the tax.

One industry official described the U. S. Government stand as the "most encouraging development yet."

Participating in the industry talks with Sir Wilfrid on Saturday were Eric Johnston, MPA president; James A. Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., who represented the Society of Independent M. P. Producers, and Allen W. Dulles of MPA.

The next move, presumably, will come from London, although Johnston plans to remain in Washington contacting top Government officials on the matter.

"Sir Wilfrid and the film industry representatives," said an industry statement on the meeting, "will review the conversations with their principals with a view to possible further discussion." State Department officials said no further conversations were planned with the British on the film tax at present, but that developments might force another meeting on the question.

Both the industry meeting with Sir Wilfrid and the Government talks were characterized as "informal and exploratory" in press releases issued subsequently.

It was emphasized that Sir Wilfrid had no power to negotiate a settlement here, but merely to take back to London representations made here on the film matter.

According to one high State Department official, the British delegation was told that the U. S. is "deeply concerned" over the British action. He said a formal protest was unlikely in view of the avowed determination of the U. S. to aid Britain through this crisis, but that the Government thought "the industry has a good case, and that the British ought to be shown that this Government is concerned over the question—as much from the point of view of this sort of thing spreading as anything else."

It was understood that Johnston, concerned over indications of actions by other governments against U. S. films, had decided to cut short his vacation and return to Washington even before the conference with the British was set up. While here he will discuss the entire foreign film situation with Government officials.

Final decision on further relaxation of the British Loan Agreement will now probably wait until Secretary of the Treasury Snyder and other high U. S. financial officials are in London early next month for the World Bank and Fund conference.

Nomikos Expresses Optimism On British Tax Situation

Hollywood, Aug. 25.—The British tax situation will right itself for all concerned, as a result of the British commission's discussions just concluded in Washington, Van A. Nomikos, vice-president of Allied Theatres of Illinois and operator of 12 theatres in Chicago and suburbs, declared here.

If an agreement is not reached, Van Nomikos warned, production standards will be lowered and the country's exhibitors might have to make up the producers' foreign market losses through increased rentals and percentages.

Van Nomikos reported that business is good everywhere in Chicago and sees no prospect of a "recession" at box-offices. He declared that independent exhibitors must be allowed a sure profit on bookings, because of the increase in operating costs.

ATOI Threatens

(*Continued from page* 1)

sued in Federal Court there for alleged falsification of box-office returns, the state independent group declares in its current bulletin:

"This will come as a surprise to many exhibitors, but it is a fact that where deals have been predicated on house overhead and that overhead does not agree with arbitrary ceilings set by distributors, then the film company through professional collection and coercion artists make unreasonable demands on the exhibitor. If these demands are resisted a smear campaign in the nature of a suit alleging all sorts of charges is filed against the exhibitor and the charges are aired in the exhibitor's local paper and irreparable damage is done to the exhibitor's escutcheon.

"It is time that this nefarious practice of the film companies is brought to a halt and that this association pledges that all cases of this sort shall be investigated and the full weight of the Indiana association shall be brought to bear. With the wronged exhibitor's consent, suits will be filed against the distributors for defamation of the exhibitor's good name, and these suits shall be pursued until successfully concluded."

Australia

(*Continued from page* 1)

gasoline per month, which will be a considerable dollar saving.

Film distributor representatives have told Prime Minister Chifley that Australian theatres could not withstand a cut in American imports. There has been a certain amount of panic in trade circles, but more stable opinion has it that much press talk should be discounted.

Among these are the fact that conferences are still in progress which could change the entire situation; that no paper has either seen or reported the regulation concerning the tax; that the press may be "gunning" for the film industry in the hope that government attention will be distracted from newsprint, since local press owners are constantly afraid of a cut in newsprint imports.

Most trade observers feel that they should await official announcements—which may not be as severe as pessimists expect—before letting off steam without possessing all the facts. Both distributor and exhibitor organizations realize that any disruption caused by restrictions on American films could not, by any means, be offset by the infinitesimal amount of dollars saved.

The position should settle quite definitely the thought that has been in some minds concerning British films as a threat to Hollywood. Although the standard of British films is high and their earnings in this country are increasing, the complete dependence of screens in the English-speaking world upon American product could never be better exemplified.

New Zealand Theatre Shutdown If No Tax Compromise Effected

Wellington, New Zealand, Aug. 25.—Unless a tax compromise is reached, there is a possibility of a complete shutdown on American films for New Zealand, R. J. Kerridge, managing director of the Kerridge Odeon Corp., covering 160 theatres, said here today.

This will occur if the recommendation of the Aid-to-Britain conference to increase the rental tax on American films from 25 to 40 per cent is implemented, he said.

The suggested 40 per cent tax would be on gross income. If the U. S. ceased sending films, three-quarters of the theatres here would be without supplies.

House Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the Conference of Studio Unions, who replied that he would cooperate with the House group. However, Roy M. Brewer, international representative of IATSE, in acknowledging receipt of a letter sent on Saturday by the subcommittee's chairman, Carroll Kearns, replied that the matter would be taken into consideration. A reply would come later, he said.

Joseph Cambiano, representing the carpenters' union, expressed doubt about IATSE's "sincerity" with respect to a possible settlement. He pointed out, in testimony before the House group today, that IATSE has a petition before the National Labor Relations Board for certification as bargaining agent for studio jobs under dispute.

Richard Walsh, IATSE president, and Brewer, along with other key figures in the long-standing studio dispute, are expected to testify tomorrow.

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Rep. E. Celler Blasts Ascap Tax Increase

Says He May Call for Federal Investigation

Congressman Emanuel Celler of Brooklyn, top-ranking Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, yesterday denounced the 300 per cent boost in theatre music license fees by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, and said he may offer a resolution at the next session of Congress to launch a Federal investigation of ASCAP.

"ASCAP is a monopoly and should be broken up," Celler declared. "This (tax) is an indication of its grasping out for power and unduly and outrageously taxing that which is an essential part of American life—music. There should be a Federal investigation.

"It's time the American public knew all the facts about ASCAP. When and if an investigation occurs, there will rise to the surface some very surprising facts that won't sit well on the stomachs of the operators of ASCAP."

Meanwhile further evidence that organized exhibition will take a stand

(*Continued on page* 2)

Policy Individual in Set Work: Mannix

Los Angeles, Aug. 26.—E. J. Mannix, M-G-M studio executive, today told the House Labor subcommittee, which is conducting hearings here, that the studios acted singly following a meeting of all studio managers in assigning carpenters, affiliated with the Conference of Studio Unions, to work on IATSE-erected sets under the pen-

(*Continued on page* 2)

Weigh Sale of Goetz Republic Holdings

Conversations involving possible sale of the Harry Goetz stock holdings in Republic, understood to have been initiated recently, are continuing, it was learned here yesterday. The matter may come up at tomorrow's scheduled meeting of Republic's board of directors here.

For some time there has been fric-

(*Continued on page* 4)

48 Republic Films in '48, 10 Under '47

Republic Pictures is committed to 27 features, plus 20 outdoor action films and Westerns, one novelty feature and four serials for 1947-48, Herbert J. Yates, president, and James R. Grainger, distribution vice-president, disclosed here yesterday. There will also be four cartoon shorts.

Herbert J. Yates

The new season's total of 48 features compares with 58 in the season now ending—32 features and 26 feature Westerns, and four serials.

Color is being accented in the new

(*Continued on page* 4)

Northwest Drive-ins Worry Independents

Minneapolis, Aug. 26.—With the first drive-in theatre in the Twin Cities area a reality, and construction rapidly nearing completion on the Bloomington drive-in in suburban Bloomington township, Minneapolis, independent exhibitors are frantically searching for means to halt the "in-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Minsky Named E-L District Manager

Joe Minsky has been named Eagle-Lion district manager for the Philadelphia-Pittsburgh-Washington territory, by A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president. Minsky was most recently with International Pictures in executive sales capacities.

Individual branch lineup in the territory lists Fred Rohrs as Washington manager; Harry Berman, Philadelphia manager; James Hendel, Pittsburgh, and John Zomnir, Pittsburgh sales manager. The five are expected in New York shortly for a series of home office conferences with Schwalberg on sales policies on forthcoming product.

Meanwhile, Stephan Justus has joined Eagle-Lion as a salesman in Los Angeles, under manager L. T. Charack.

Change in British Film Tax Unlikely Before Next Month

London, Aug. 26.—Authoritative sources here understand that no final decision on changing the Dalton film tax will be made until Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder arrives here from Washington next month for meetings on the World Bank and Fund.

Treasury officials declare privately that it is important that American film executives should appreciate that motion pictures comprise a relatively small facet in the over-all picture of Britain's economic situation which, in consequence of the freezing of the $400,000,000 balance of Britain's loan from the United States, compels the government, whether it prefers to do so or not, to pay for American imports primarily with British exports.

The harassed government here already has ordered a staggering reduction of imports of American food, which will lead to cuts in this nation's food rations the dimensions of which, when announced this week, are likely to startle the populace.

It is inevitable, Treasury officials

(*Continued on page* 4)

Tax Halts Rank's Production Abroad

London, Aug. 26.—Decision to suspend the equipping of J. Arthur Rank's Australian studios, for which his much-publicized overseas production activities was planned, was made here yesterday when it became apparent that Australian films are subject to the Dalton 75 per cent tax.

The development caused symptoms of near panic in some quarters of the Rank organization, further illustrating that the Rank companies had been caught completely off balance by their

(*Continued on page* 4)

Color Matrices, New Prints Are Taxable

Home office foreign departments have been advised by their London offices that color matrices, new prints and new material of any kind for pictures already in England will be subject to the full 300 per cent British *ad valorem* duty if sent there any time after the tax became effective Aug. 6.

The ruling will result in an inconvenience but does not materially affect the amount of playing time to

(*Continued on page* 4)

U.K. Embargo Reaffirmed by Industry Heads

Washington Meet Mulls Alternate to Dalton Tax

Washington, Aug. 26.—A hastily-called meeting of the board of directors of the Motion Picture Association and other top film officials, including representatives of the independents, agreed today that the British must remove the Dalton tax before the U. S. film industry can consider any alternative plan or end its embargo on film exports to Britain.

MPA officials refused to say whether any concrete alternatives to the Dalton tax had been discussed, but all the indications were that other plans had come up. There was no talk of further reprisals beyond the film embargo, they said.

Despite the fact that the meeting, held at MPA headquarters here, lasted almost the entire afternoon, officials present refused to reveal anything that had been discussed except the rehashing of one or two virtually foregone conclusions.

Called late Monday night, the meeting was attended by almost the entire

(*Continued on page* 4)

Rathvon-Atlas Deal Snagged by UK Tax

Negotiations for the acquisition of a major portion of Atlas Corp.'s RKO stock holdings by N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, have not been advanced since the British film tax development.

In financial circles it is believed that the British tax, altering the situation, temporarily affected current valuation of the stock, and, therefore, negotiation terms.

Rathvon, who was here on a brief

(*Continued on page* 4)

Univ.-Int'l Begins Branch Sales Meets

A series of sales meetings to be held in all branches of Universal-International will start this week.

William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, and his sales cabinet have ended their studio conferences and Scully and Charles J. Feldman, Western divison manager,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern district manager, is on a trip to Buffalo and Binghamton, N. Y.

◆

TRAVIS CARR, Paramount booker in Memphis, has been promoted to office manager, succeeding GEORGE GAUGHAN, who resigned to assume ownership and operation of the Normal Theatre there.

◆

EUGENE WALTER BERG, son of L. J. BERG, Altec service inspector in Atlanta, was recently married to THARON PEARL FORD in Jackson, Miss.

◆

RICHARD MULLEN, manager of the Bard Theatre, Louisville, is on vacation, and JESSE FINE of Premier Theatres, Evansville, Ind., is substituting for him.

◆

LOUIS LEVINE, manager of the Rivoli Theatre, Holyoke, Mass., recently observed his 17th anniversary in that position.

◆

RUSSELL HENDERSON, office manager of Theatre Booking Service, Charlotte, and his family are vacationing at Crescent Beach, S. C.

◆

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity director, returned yesterday from vacation.

◆

TOM YOUNG, 20th Century-Fox branch manager in Memphis, has returned there from Dallas.

◆

ARTHUR JEFFREY, Eagle-Lion exploitation manager, has returned to New York from Texas.

◆

HARRY KATZ of Kay Film Exchanges, Atlanta, is in Charlotte.

Services Tomorrow For Edgar Moss

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 26.—Funeral services for Edgar Moss, formerly district manager for 20th Century-Fox in Philadelphia, will be held here on Thursday at the Oliver H. Bair Funeral Parlors.

W. C. Gehring, assistant general sales manager, and Sam Shain, director of exhibitor and public relations, will represent the home office distribution department at the services.

Gassner Leaves Columbia

Following the departure on Sept. 13 of John Gassner from the post of play editor of Columbia, the play department here will be merged with the Eastern story department, headed by Janet Wood. Thomas G. Ratcliffe, Jr., who assisted Gassner, will remain as Miss Wood's assistant.

Sales Drive for Smith

The annual fall sales drive of 20th Century-Fox this year will be known as the "Andy Smith Drive," and will be held from Aug. 31 through Dec. 27.

N.Y. 1st-Run Grosses High

Majority of New York's first-runs are in the upper money bracket this week in spite of box-office damage done by sizzling heat of the weekend.

"Mother Wore Tights" is likely to give the Roxy a smash first week's gross of $132,000. Ella Logan and Jack Haley top the stage bill. Another lofty newcomer is "Deep Valley," which, with Count Basie on the stage, appears to be good for $70,000 in its first week at the Strand. "The Roosevelt Story" is powerful at the Globe, the first week's gross being estimated at $39,000.

"Life with Father" is rolling up a tremendous second week at the Warner, on a $54,000 gross. Second week of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" also is top-notch, providing the Astor with $56,000. At the Paramount, "Welcome Stranger" with Carmen Cavallaro's orchestra continues big, with $93,000 slated for a third week. "Crossfire" is a sturdy contender at the Rivoli, which figures on $32,000 for a fifth week.

A robust $135,000 is apparent for the fifth week of "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" at the Music Hall. Sixth week of "The Hucksters," with the De Marcos on stage, should bring $40,000, which is fair, to the Capitol. "I Know Where I'm Going" is blazing a new trail at the Sutton which anticipate a huge $14,000 for a first week. A sixth week's $22,000 for "Brute Force" is good. At the Park. "Frieda" will do a healthy $10,000 in a second week. "Black Narcissus" is headed for a second week's gross of $22,000.

Harris-Broder Name Changed to Realart

Harris - Broder Pictures Corp., which recently acquired Universal reissues, has changed its name to Realart Pictures. Offices are in New York.

Realart has closed with Film Classics for the latter to distribute in the United States, Alaska and Hawaii 50 pictures, to be released 10 a year over five years. The deal is in addition to one previously made with PRC. The deal with Film Classics was negotiated by Joe Bernhard of FC and Budd Rogers, vice-president of Realart.

Realart was the name of one of the early film companies.

Warners to Build Two More Exchanges

Construction of two new Warner exchange buildings is expected to get under way in about a month, following the opening of new quarters now being completed in Minneapolis. One of the new buildings will be erected in Omaha, while another is planned for Jacksonville, Fla.

Herman Goldberg, supervisor of maintenance for Warner exchanges, will leave here tomorrow for Minneapolis to supervise the finishing of the new quarters there. He will remain until late September.

Lippert Is Seeking Redwood Circuit

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 26.—Robert L. Lippert is understood to have made overtures to George Mann of Redwood Theatres to acquire that circuit.

Doubt was expessed here that satisfactory terms would be reached since Mann is not expected to agree to sell outright, but rather to remain as a landlord, plus a percentage agreement.

ASCAP Tax

(Continued from page 1)

against the ASCAP boost in music license fees was brought to the fore yesterday with the disclosure that the executive committee of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association will convene in special session and the suggestion that American Theatres Association will take similar steps.

Si Fabian, ATA president, said it is his "personal recommendation" that the ASCAP plan should be fought, adding that he feels other ATA principals are in agreement on this. Fabian conceded this would mean a policy reversal, the original intentions of the organization being to steer clear of trade practices.

While no definitive action has been agreed upon, various sources indicate the most likely approach to the situation would be discussions between ASCAP officials and authorized exhibitor spokesmen.

The MMPTA executive group which will meet here shortly to explore the matter includes Oscar Doob, Robert M. Weitman, Julius Joelson, Leo Brecher, Gus Eyssell and Samuel Rinzler.

Set Work

(Continued from page 1)

alty of termination of employment of the carpenters.

Mannix, who was summoned to testify after testimony by other witnesses had raised the question of whether the major studios had acted individually or by agreed policy, declared that the studios were faced with the necessity of shutting down unless the work assigned to the carpenters were performed, and that IATSE had declared itself ready to supply men to do the work. The incident, leading to the present strike, occurred last Sept. 23, he said.

The subcommittee's chairman, Carroll D. Kearns announced that the hearings will be terminated Friday, indicating that some night sessions may be required to complete testimony.

Army Cites MMPTA

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association was given a citation by the U. S. Army yesterday for its cooperation in making the lobbies of member theatres available on Army Day for information concerning the Army.

UA Home Office Meet

United Artists district managers Clayton Eastman, New England, and Mark N. Silver, Pennsylvania-Washington, are meeting in a two-day conference here with Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager, on sales policy.

Newsreel Parade

THE newsreels turn the spotlight on varied world events in current issues. Shown are the sentencing of the Nazi atrocity leaders, Russian soldiers returning home from China, and Jewish orphans entering Palestine. Miscellaneous events at home are also covered, including sports, fashions and a rodeo. Complete contents f[illegible]:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 1[illegible]—Navy demonstrates amphibious training. Horror-camp Nazis sentenced. Russians going home from China. Jewish orphans find haven. Dutch princess has a birthday. College all-stars defeat National League champs. Track meet in Melbourne. AAU outdoor championship.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 105—Marines hit-the-beach again in spectacular maneuvers. U. S. military court dooms "butchers of Buchenwald." Promised land opened for war orphans. New styles for college girls. Football curtain rises. Rodeo thrills. Olympic swim preview.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 105—Rodeo in Los Angeles draws 90,000. British troops leave India. Fashions. Russia calls back manpower. All-stars upset Bears by 15-0.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 68—British troops withdraw from India. Jewish orphans arrive at Haifa. Russians leave Shanghai for home. Dominican Republic president inaugurated in impressive ceremonies. German vacationists jam trains for holiday. Women swim and driving champs exhibit skill. College all-stars beat Chicago Bears.

WARNER-PATHE NEWS, No. 3—AAU swimming meet. Soviet citizens sail for home. Some 90,000 see rodeo. Child lost four days is found. Long skirt question. All-stars win grid thriller.

Judgment Issued In Percentage Suit

BOSTON, Aug. 26.—Judgments aggregating $92,124 in percentage suits were entered here today in Federal Court in favor of eight distributing companies against defendant Ralph E. Snider and various operating corporations in the Snider Theatre Cirucit.

Judgment in a separate suit by each of the eight companies was approved by U. S. Judge Arthur D. Healey. The eight suits were brought in Jan., 1946. This is believed to be the first judgment obtained by the companies against an exhibitor in the drive started some months ago in the courts on percentage payments.

Judgment is directed for the entire amount awarded in each action against Snider personally, and in varying other amounts against one or more of the defendant exhibiting corporations. Largest award was the $28,861 obtained by 20th Century-Fox. RKO obtained $25,191; Loew's, $23,060; Columbia, $6,721; United Artists, $5,902; Paramount, $1,349; Universal, $975; Warner Brothers, $62.21.

Theatres involved are: the Empire and Strand, Portland, Me.; Bijou and Casino, Ware, Mass., Winthrop and State, Winthrop, Mass., Community Playhouse, Dedham, Mass.; Bijou and Empire, Providence; Palace, Edgewood, R. I.; Park, Auburn, R. I.

Jacob J. Kaplan and Robert W. Meserve of the Boston law firm of Nutter, McClennen and Fish represented the distributing companies.

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THE DANCE OF THE DOLLARS IN CHARLESTON!

All the marvelous things the trade press said about M-G-M's Technicolor Wonder Show "THE UNFINISHED DANCE" came true in the first test engagement at Charleston, W. Va. The eye-filling spectacle, the gorgeous girls, the pulsating drama, the marvelous music—all the brilliant showmanship of a Great attraction packed the folks in and started the dance of the dollars to the box-offices of the nation!

M-G-M presents "THE UNFINISHED DANCE" • MARGARET O'BRIEN • Cyd Charisse • Karin Booth • And Introducing Danny Thomas • A Henry Koster Production • Photographed in Technicolor • Screen Play by Myles Connolly • Based on "La Mort Du Cygne" by Paul Morand • Directed by HENRY KOSTER • Produced by JOE PASTERNAK • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

48 Republic Films

(Continued from page 1)

program, with 12 of the 20 outdoor releases, several features, the novelty feature, and the cartoons produced in Trucolor.

Nine "De Luxe" productions will include: "Wake of the Red Witch," Carland Roark's story; "Eagles in Exile"; "Crosswinds," by Martha Cheavens; "Sea of Darkness"; "Last of the Westerners"; "Untamed"; "End of the Rainbow," by Ernest Lehman and Geza Herczeg; "Don Careless," by Rex Beach, and "In Old Los Angeles." John Wayne will appear in the first two mentioned.

There will be two specials: "Macbeth" and "The Red Pony," by John Steinbeck, to be produced by Charles K. Feldman and Lewis Milestone, in Technicolor, directed by the latter and starring Myrna Loy, Robert Mitchum, Louis Calhern and Peter Miles. Orson Welles will produce "Macbeth," with his Mercury Players.

Sixteen "B" productions will be included in the "Variety Group": "Down Tahiti Way" (musical), "Daredevils of the Sky," "Slippy McGee," "Singapore Sal," "Campus Honeymoon," "Thunder in the Forest," "Strange Escapade," "Woman in the Dark," "South Sea Susie" (musical), "The Castaway," "Crooked Cargo," "Betrayal," "Heart of Virginia," "Secret Service Investigator," "Contraband" and "Flight from Fury."

Roy Rogers will star in six Trucolor features: "Grand Canyon Serenade", "Under California Stars", "Chimes of Catalina", "Eyes of Texas", "Heart of Ramona" and "Westerner and the Lady".

Also in Trucolor will be six starring Monte Hale and Adrian Booth, branded "All - Star Productions": "Colorado Thorobreds", "Sundown in Sante Fe", "Son of God's Country", "The Overland Trail", "Under Mexican Skies" and "The Gay Gaucho".

The four Trucolor cartoons will be by cartoonist Bob Clampett. Ken Murray will produce the novelty feature, "Bill and Coo", in Trucolor, with a cast of birds.

Allan (Rocky) Lane is to be starred in eight in the "Famous Western Series", "The Wild Frontier," "Oklahoma Badlands," "Ghost Town Raiders," "The Denver Kid," "Desperadoes of Dodge City," "Marshal of Amarillo," "Carson City Raiders" and "Cimarron Trails."

The four serials are: "G-Men Never Forget" and "Dangers of the Canadian Mounted," each 12 episodes; "Dick Tracy Returns," 15 chapters, and "Adventures of Frank and Jesse James," 13 chapters.

Cantor To Be Honored

Eddie Cantor will be guest of honor at the American Legion convention here tomorrow.

For Studio—

Architecturally magnificent modern fireproof former First National Bank Building at Mamaroneck Ave. & Boston Post Road, in Mamaroneck. 3-story and full terrazzo floor basement; high ceiling mezzanine banking floor; third floor all offices. 2 elevators. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

Fox West Coast Meet

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 26. — A Northern California conclave of Fox West Coast Theatres brought to town from Los Angeles circuit executives including John Bretaro, legal counsel, Paul Shearer, film statistician, and George Bowser. Charles Skouras, who has been vacationing in Del Monte with John Lavery, his aide, and Mike Rosenberg, of Principal Theatres, drove up for the meeting. On the agenda was the lining up of the sixth "Charles P. Skouras Showmanship Drive" and also conferences on the recently consummated Naify-Golden State deal.

Beck Severs U-I Contract

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 26.—John Beck, U-I producer and formerly general manager of U-I studios, today announced severance of his contract with the studio. He will remain on the lot as an independent producer, and will produce the screen version of "Harvey," which was assigned to him last month. His first independent film released by Universal will be the production, in association with Lester Cowan, of "One Touch of Venus."

Set 20th-Fox Premieres

Twentieth Century-Fox announced here yesterday that its "Foxes of Harrow" will have its world premiere in New Orleans in September; "Nightmare Alley" in Dallas in October, and "Gentleman's Agreement" at the Mayfair here in November.

Deny Video Application

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26.—The Van Curler Broadcasting Corp., of which Si H. Fabian is a director, has been denied an application for a construction permit for a new standard broadcasting station in Albany, N. Y., the Federal Communications Commission announced here today.

Univ.-Int'l Meetings

(Continued from page 1)

have gone to San Francisco and from there Scully will move on to Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Chicago. At the conclusion of the San Francisco meeting, Feldman will visit Portland, Seattle, Detroit and Chicago.

E. T. Gomersall, assistant to Scully, and Foster Blake, west coast district manager, have left for Denver, Salt Lake City, Omaha, Des Moines and Kansas City. A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager and F. J. A. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian division manager, will hold meetings in Dallas, Oklahoma City, St. Louis, Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager, will start his sessions within a few days at Albany, Boston, Buffalo, New Haven, Philadelphia and Washington.

Goetz Stock Sale

(Continued from page 1)

tion, it is understood, between the Goetz group and a group headed by Herbert J. Yates, Republic president.

One observer commented that in such a situation, where two strong groups have clashed and have been unable to arrive at an understanding, one usually breaks the deadlock by selling its holdings.

Efforts to reach Goetz yesterday for comment on the progress of the conversations were unsuccessful. The Goetz holdings in Republic are estimated at approximately 80,000 shares.

Purchases Simansky Interest in Fensin

CHICAGO, Aug. 26.—E. R. Fensin, president of the Fensin Seating Co., here, has purchased the interest of Les Simansky, secretary-treasurer, in the firm. Simansky was with the firm for five years.

Fensin also announced that the concern will expand facilities on all items. When conditions, such as availability of material and labor, permit, the Fensin firm will be prepared to manufacture and market its own brand of theatre seats.

Tax Halts Rank

(Continued from page 1)

failure to anticipate the possibility of adoption of the tax.

Norman B. Rydge, Rank's Australian partner, characterizes the tax as "most unfair" and "a crippling blow to Australian production."

Rydge ordered work on the Pagewood Studios at Sydney stopped and cancelled orders recently placed abroad for $400,000 worth of equipment for Cinesound.

"It seems that Empire preference has gone overboard," Rydge said.

Rank officials here say they are helpless to act until the situation has been clarified.

Orders issued by Rank today suspend bookings on his circuits, due after the end of the year.

Color Matrices

(Continued from page 1)

be had from the estimated 125 new pictures unreleased in England when the tax became effective, home office foreign department officials said.

It is estimated that of the 125 unreleased American films in Britain, 14 to 18 may be in Technicolor and it is believed that it may eventually be possible to make color prints for these in England without matrices. "Dupes" of black and white prints can be made there, eliminating the necessity of sending taxable prints from here.

Foreign department officials here said there is no reason, as a result of this development, to make any significant downward revision in the previous estimates that the tax-free product in England is sufficient to last six to eight months and, with reissues, single features and longer runs, up to 12 months.

Northwest Drive-Ins

(Continued from page 1)

vasion" as rumors reach Film Row of more impending outdoor show houses for the district.

With fresh memories of the Bloomington moving in quietly and practically unobserved, and construction getting well under way before the new competition was given serious thought, Stan Kane, executive director of North Central Allied, is running down rumors of possible drive-in activities in scattered outskirts in the hope of nipping the projects with appeals to village heads for consideration of heavy investment in established theatres.

Meantime, Dave Flexer, president, and Al Avery, general manager of the Bloomington drive-in, are still negotiating film deals. Distributors, generally, are asking straight percentage deals at the start, preferring to await box-office results before offering flat rentals.

U. K. Embargo

(Continued from page 1)

MPA board, representatives of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, other MPA officials, and industry advisers.

There was no discussion, one official said, of the offer of the British Film Producers Association to meet with American film representatives. He indicated that the industry intended to wait until the current negotiations with the British go[illegible]ment were resolved "one way or t[illegible]er" before acting on the BFPA offer.

Due to MPA's concern over the British blow and its repercussions in other countries, MPA president Eric Johnston has cancelled plans for the remainder of his vacation and will stay here indefinitely, meeting with Government officials. It was indicated that Johnston would also be in touch by telephone with J. Arthur Rank and other British film executives.

The air-conditioning system for the MPA's board room here must have been made in England. It stopped functioning just before the meeting began and as Washington sweltered in a humid 91-degree temperature.

The industry's top executives conferred coatless, with rolled shirt sleeves and open collars (wet) in consequence.

Those present at the meeting, in addition to Johnston, were: Jack Cohn, Columbia; Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Ned Depinet, RKO; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; John J. O'Connor and Charles Prutzman, Universal; Albert Warner, Warner Bros.; Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists; James R. Grainger, Republic; James Mulvey, Samuel Goldwyn Prod. Marvin I. Faris, assistant t Donald Nelson, representing the Society of Independent Motion Pictur Producers; Allen W. Dulles, Edwar S. Cohen, Francis S. Harmon, Joyc O'Hara, Gerald Mayer, Georg Borthwick, and Edward Cheyfitz, al of the MPA.

UK Tax Change

(Continued from page 1)

say, that film imports also will b drastically reduced until Britain's present economic unbalance has been corrected.

They maintain that the form of th Dalton tax is not designed to be confiscatory of Hollywood's tradin profits here but is intended to be a instrument for restricting imports.

Treasury officials state also that i is likely that a point of negotiatio with respect to the Dalton tax woul be the development of some form o Anglo-American trading arrangemen which would be confined exclusivel to motion pictures.

Rathvon-Atlas Deal

(Continued from page 1)

visit more than a week ago, is bac on the Coast. He has been seekin to form a syndicate here for the purchase of a major part of Atlas's RK holdings. First call on the stock purchase will go to Rathvon. Odlum i understood to be proceeding on a pr gram providing for a reduction of A las' stock portfolio, which include 929,000 shares of RKO common, as the company's last financial repor This block, plus some 300,000 stoc warrants, constitutes controlling i terest in RKO.

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ToResumeTax Talks With UK Officials

Johnston, Eady Confer By Trans-Ocean 'Phone

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Top-level talks between U. S. film industry representatives and British government officials in London in the near future became probable today after a Trans-Atlantic telephone conversation between Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and Sir Wilfrid Eady, head of the recently returned British financial mission.

No alternatives were discussed in today's conversation, which was a direct outgrowth of yesterday's MPA board meeting here. However, an MPA statement said that "both sides expressed the hope that the door would remain open to try and work out a solution."

Giving itself plenty of leeway, the

(*Continued on page* 8)

End of Coast Strike Aim of House Unit

LOS ANGELES, Ang. 27.—An all-out effort to bring an end to the studio strike before the House Labor subcommittee hearings close here will be made by the chairman, Carroll D. Kearns, he declared at the opening of today's session. Irving McCann, the group's counsel, later declared informally that all resources of the subcommittee would be brought to bear to this end.

"My services are available if I can help," he declared. "I am interested in pay checks. I would like to see this strike settled and that $500,000 weekly payroll restored to normalcy. I don't want to see any more men losing their homes."

While IATSE responded earlier

(*Continued on page* 8)

UK Sees 44-Million Savings on Films

LONDON, Aug. 27.—In a semi-official statement issued here today, regarding savings in the next 12 months in import payments, following announcement of Britain's latest tighten-your-belt program, it is estimated that sav-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Charges UK Violated U.S. Loan Agreement

Hollywood, Aug. 27.—U. S. Senator William F. Knowland (Cal.) charged here that the British had violated the U. S. loan agreement by their 75 per cent tax on American films.

"One provision of the agreement under which the British got $3,750,000,000 from us was that there should not be any such discrimination," Knowland said. "If we find we cannot rely on that agreement, how can we have faith in any future agreement?"

Reach No Decision On Loan Violation

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Secretary of the Treasury Snyder said here today that the Treasury had reached no decision as to whether the British 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax on films was a violation of the loan agreement. Both the Motion Picture Association and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers have asked the Treasury to rule that the tax is in violation of the three existing U. S. financial agreements with Britain.

Snyder told a press conference that Sir Wilfrid Eady and the British loan delegation, which met here last week, had been asked to "give us the background on the film situation." When asked if the explanation had been satisfactory, Snyder gave no answer, but said that no action had been taken.

There were no "side agreements or gentlemen's agreements" made during the talks last week, Snyder said, that would violate any branch of the loan agreement.

CRIMINAL ACTION Vs. ASCAP ASKED

Allied States Petitions Department of Justice To Bring Charges Now

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27.—Abram F. Myers, general counsel of Allied States, disclosed today that Allied has asked the Department of Justice to bring criminal charges against the officers and members of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, as the start of Allied's all-out battle against Ascap's demand for a 300 per cent rate increase in film theatre license costs.

Justice Department officials refused to comment on Allied's request, which reached the Department yesterday.

In a bulletin issued late today, Myers charged that a civil proceeding against Ascap "will serve no good purpose" and that Ascap's recent action calls for criminal prosecutions under the Sherman Act. "We believe," Myers stated, "that Ascap will abandon its mad course only when its officers and members feel on the backs of their necks the hot breath of a United States marshal armed with a warrant of arrest."

While Ascap has heretofore "exercised its great powers moderately," Myers declared, "it is imperative that

(*Continued on page* 7)

N.Y. Exhibitors to File Against Ascap

Weisman, Quinn, Allan, Spett and Celler, attorneys for a group of New York independent exhibitor plaintiffs in an anti-trust suit against Ascap, are preparing a motion for an order restraining the music society from putting into effect its 300 per cent theatre license increase plan, Herbert Fabricant, staff member of the law firm, disclosed here yesterday. Papers will be filed in New York Federal Court shortly, he said.

The restraining order sought would

(*Continued on page* 7)

3 Reviews Today

"Golden Earrings" and "Hal Roach Comedy Carnival" are reviewed on page 4; "Frieda" is on page 7. Key city grosses are reported on page 7.

12 Film Unions in N.Y. Sign Peace Pact with O'Dwyer

Mayor William O'Dwyer, taking another step in his policy of encouraging a substantial part of the industry to produce here, yesterday signed a five-year peace agreement with 12 film unions, and at the same time made public a report prepared by Edward C. Maguire on industry requirements here.

The agreement guarantees that there will be no jurisdictional strikes among the film unions here for five years, and pledges all signers to settle any disagreements by arbitration, the arbitrator to be appointed by the Mayor.

O'Dwyer, signing the agreement at City Hall, declared that "a large portion of the motion picture production business belongs in New York City," adding: "The report which I am re-

(*Continued on page* 8)

400 'IA' Men Get 15% Rise at 2 Circuits

Agreement has been reached here between projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, and the Skouras and Randforce circuits, affecting more than 400 operators, but strike action looms against the Loew and RKO circuits, it is understood. The new agreement with Skouras and Randforce

(*Continued on page* 8)

Film Heads Buffeted By Storm, Bad News, Orators

Top echelon of industry executives, after listening all afternoon Tuesday to discouraging reports on the state of foreign trade, at Motion Picture Association headquarters in Washington, experienced one of the most hazardous plane trips back to New York in Tuesday evening's violent storm that any of them could recall. And many in the group are veteran airline travelers on trans-continental and trans-Atlantic routes.

Among the group, all passengers in

(*Continued on page* 8)

Gulf States Allied Hits Ascap Action

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 27.—Maurice J. Arigues, general manager of Allied Theatre Owners of the Gulf States, announced here today that the organization plans to have all independent exhibitors in this territory fight the proposed rate increase of ASCAP.

The ATOGS suggests that all independent exhibitors in this territory contact its office on Film Row for further particulars.

Personal Mention

WILLIAM B. LEVY, Walt Disney Prod. sales executive, is due back here Monday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* from Europe.

•

E. Z. WALTERS, comptroller of Altec Service Corp., has become a grandfather with the birth of a son, GARRET GOULD BUTTEL JR., to his daughter, MRS. G. G. BUTTEL of Parsippany, N. J.

•

SILAS F. SEADLER, M-G-M advertising manager, and ERNEST EMERLING, head of advertising-publicity for Loew's Theatres, will leave here by plane tomorrow for the Coast.

•

NATHAN E. GOLDSTEIN, owner of the Arcade Theatre, Springfield, Mass., MRS. GOLDSTEIN and their daughter, MIRIAM, have returned from a trip to Europe.

•

J. F. GOETZ, traveling representative for the RKO theatre department, Cleveland, is acting city manager while MAX MINK is on vacation.

•

RICHARD OWEN, Eagle-Lion Southwest field representative, is in town for conferences with MAX YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity director.

•

JAMES S. HOWIE, secretary-treasurer of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, has arrived here from Hollywood.

•

LEO COHEN, foreign film distributor, is due in Europe this week by plane from New York for a seven-week trip.

•

TED ROUTSON, manager of the Little Theatre, Baltimore, is vacationing in Pennsylvania.

•

CLYDE ELLIOTT, producer, is expected here next week from Chicago.

•

ELLIOTT NUGENT is in New York from the Coast.

See Possibility of N.Y. Admissions Tax

Possibility of an entertainment admission tax in New York City appeared yesterday with Mayor O'Dwyer's announcement that new local taxes will be imposed temporarily to finance initial costs of new housing projects here. Any new taxes imposed for housing must be approved by both the City Council and the Board of Estimate.

New York State's public housing law authorizes an entertainment tax of four per cent; a tax of five cents per month on each telephone; a 10 per cent tax on tobacco other than cigarettes; a 10 per cent tax on patent medicines, and a 50-cents-a-month tax on vending machines. New taxes, if applied to any of these items, would be continued only until the rentals make the projects self-supporting.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

LOUIS MAYER orders Bob Taylor to stay out of the air while he is in production, at any rate. Bill Rodgers' commands to his Metro selling crew is explicit, like this: "Take a train." But the presidents, having no one to order them around, are turning out to be far more glamorous and adventurous. And decidedly foolhardy, too.

Eric Johnston called them to Washington Tuesday for an emergency meeting on the British [and other] tax situation, although why everyone had to hotfoot it to steaming Washington when Johnston might have come to New York is not clear. There were some rumors of illness or indisposition, though.

They went, held their meeting in air conditioning that refused to work, heard only discouraging news and prospects and then made their decision—and what a decision! Back to New York in one plane was what they determined. Balaban for Paramount, Schenck for Loew's, Skouras for 20th-Fox, Albert Warner for his company, Depinet for RKO, Sears for United Artists, Jack Cohn for Columbia, plus such ranking executives as Grainger for Republic, and Charlie Prutzman and Johnny O'Connor for Universal.

Their plane hit that frightening storm over La Guardia Field along about six in the evening. It landed right side up finally, but the situation was not what might be called pleasant or reassuring.

In the safety zone at "21" yesterday, Cohn was relaxed and looking backward. He was trying to dope out what the new presidential slates would have been in case——.

■

One circumstance has the habit of reminding of another, and sometimes of a story. Like the one about the careful Scotchman who sent his son to America on one boat and his baggage on another to make certain he wouldn't lose both.

Any resemblance is not even coincidental.

■ ■

A kind of grim agreement in some directions met this item carried recently in Hedda Hopper's Hollywood column:

"A realistic proposal by a notable American economist is en route to Whitehall suggesting the trade balance in pictures be re-established by the immediate repatriation of 75 per cent of British actors, writers and directors who have fattened off American film salaries during the war. All those who delivered their military services . . . are, of course, exempt with highest honors. But the 75 per cent quota can be amply and practically filled by those who made no war contribution and whose annual 'take' from the studios during the war period is conservatively estimated by the economist as exceeding $75,000,000, or $21,000,000 in excess of the sum which the British now claim as their dire need and the prime cause of the 75 per cent confiscatory tax."

Hedda had her claws freshly sharpened when she wrote that one.

■ ■

The ghosts of those who used to hang around the Palace Theatre in the two-a-day era will be glad to know they have an unexpected champion. He is Eddie Cantor, who predicts vaudeville is due for a walloping comeback. His reason: "Many of the boys in the service formed a liking for 'in person' shows and they will demand more of this type of entertainment."

■ ■

Robert Siodmak, the director, regards his unusual name as an asset. According to *Life* Magazine, he asks: "What is interested in anyone named Smith?"

Whole aggregations of exhibitors, many of them playing Siodmak's pictures, are interested in Andy W., who has a new sales policy at 20th-Fox.

■ ■

Louella O. Parsons advises her legion of readers in the Hearst and other newspapers that "Kiss of Death" is "cleaning up."

The picture introduced the new first-run policy at the Mayfair here in New York yesterday. Its sole prior run was in Los Angeles.

■ ■

Here's one which would make us happy if denied: Reports that salesmen, two decades and more with their companies, are being fired in the economy campaign.

'Variety' Benefit in Toronto Nets $15,000

TORONTO, Aug. 27.—With the front of the Imperial Theatre still in the reconstruction stage, workers hastily erected a temporary entrance just before the crowds started to asemble here tonight for the Canadian premiere of "Variety Girl." With tickets selling at $3 and $5, $15,000 was expected from the benefit performance to aid the Toronto Variety Tent in its training school for Ontario's crippled children.

Chief barker J. J. Fitzgibbons accepted, on behalf of the tent, a new car donated by General Motors of Canada with which the tent will provide free film entertainment at hospitals and institutions for children of war veterans and aged persons.

San Francisco Variety In New Charity Drive

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 27. — At a dinner in honor of Dr. J. C. Geiger, City Health Director, Abe Blumenfeld, chief barker of the Variety Club and H. Neal East, chairman of the Heart Committee, presented Geiger with the Variety Club's 12th honorary membership. The ceremony was part of the $50,000 drive for a nursery for blind babies, the welfare work adopted by the organization.

Top 'IA' Officials To Enter Pathe Talks

As a result of the failure to reach an agreement between Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, and Pathe Laboratories, an international representative of IATSE and Judge Matthew M. Levy, general counsel for the IATSE, will participate in negotiation sessions scheduled for Sept. 3.

Negotiations for a contract, affecting 40 employes, have continued for two months, since the unionization of the laboratories here and at Bound Brook, N. J.

Altec Names Ward to Manufacturing Post

A. A. Ward, vice-president of Altec Lansing has been promoted to vice-president of Altec Service, parent company. He will be in charge of manufacturing.

Ward's election to the Altec vice-presidency was made at a board of director's meeting here at which the following officers were re-elected: G. L. Carrington, president; H. M. Bessey, vice-president and secretary; P. F. Thomas, treasurer; R. J. Belmont, assistant secretary-treasurer.

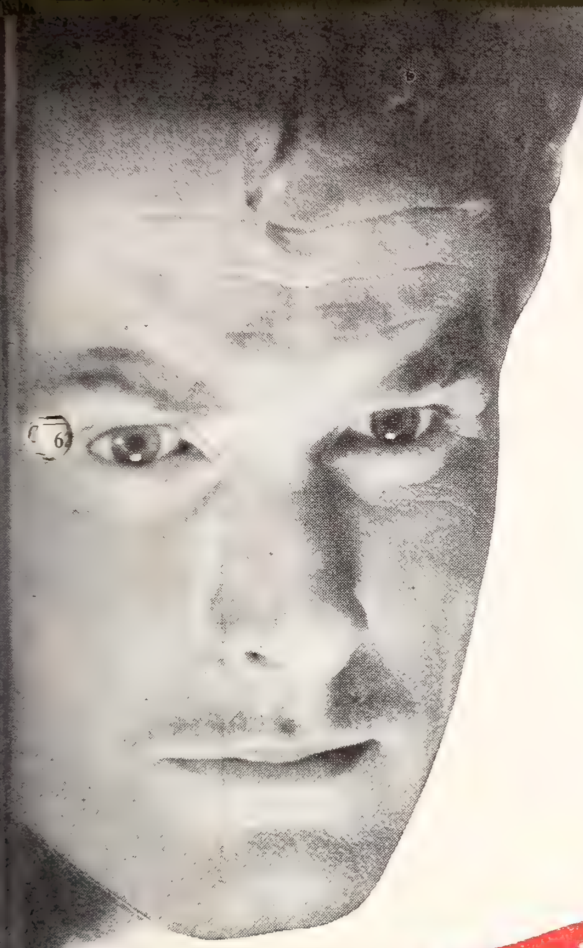
Roach on AMPP Board

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27.—Hal Roach Jr., representing Hal Roach studios, has been elected a member of the board of directors of the Association of Motion Picture Producers. He replaces Warren Doane.

Four Sail for England

Sailing yesterday for England aboard the *SS Queen Mary* were Wallace Beery, Henry Koster, director, and Mrs. Koster, and Mrs. Natalie Kalmus of Technicolor in Hollywood.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



ERROL **FLYNN**·BARBARA **STANWYCK**

"CRY WOLF"

A THRILLING TEAM IN THE HIT THAT TEEMS WITH THRILLS!

"CRY WOLF" IS MAKING A TERRIFICALLY PLEASING SOUND AT THE BOXOFFICE, AS IT IS NATIONALLY RELEASED BY

WARNER BROS.!!

with that rising young star
GERALDINE BROOKS

Directed by Peter Godfrey Produced by Henry Blanke
Screen Play by Catherine Turney • From the Novel by
Marjorie Carleton • Music by Franz Waxman

Production Is Up Slightly; 38 Shooting

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 27. — With seven pictures sent to the cameras and five going to cutting rooms, the production index was 38 films shooting against 36 for the previous seven-day period. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "The Black Arrow".
Shooting: "Glamour Girl", "Rose of Santa Rosa", "The Sign of the Ram", "A Little Spanish Town", "Blondie's Anniversary".

Eagle-Lion

Started: "Enchanted Valley", with Charles Grapewin, Alan Curtis, Anne Gwynne. "Tornado Range", with Eddie Dean, Roscoe Ates, Jennifer Holt. "Open Secret", with John Ireland, George Tyne.

Shooting: "T-Man", "Northwest Stampede".

M-G-M

Shooting: "Luxury Liner", "The High Wall", "On an Island with You".

Monogram

Started: "The Quest of Willie Hunter", with Don Castle, Audrey Long and Peggy Knudson co-starred. "The Red Hornet" (Charlie Chan), with Roland Winters, Mañtan Moreland, Warren Douglas.
Shooting: "Rocky".

Paramount

Shooting: "The Paleface", "My Own True Love".

Republic

Started: "Slippy McGee", with Don Barry, Dale Evans, Tom Brown.
Finished: "Outlaws of Ghost Town", "The Red Pony", "The Gay Ranchero".

RKO Radio

Started: "Race Street", with George Raft, William Bendix, Marilyn Maxwell.
Finished: "Your Red Wagon".
Shooting: "I Remember Mama", "Roughshod", "Station West", "Good Sam", "Under Arizona Skies", A Song Is Born" (Goldwyn).

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie".

20th-Fox

Shooting: "Gentleman's Agreement", "Green Grass of Wyoming", "The Snake Pit".

United Artists

Shooting: Hopalong Cassidy No. 11, untitled.

Universal-International

Shooting: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "River Lady", "Mortal Coils", "A Double Life".

Independent

Shooting: "The Tender Years" (Alson Productions). "War Party" (Argosy Pictures).

Frank E. Goff, 100

OMAHA, Aug. 27.—Frank E. Goff, 100, film pioneer, died here this week. He operated the first nickelodeon in Omaha, the Franklin, later managed the Alhambra, and built the first two outdoor theatres here, 40 years, both of then the Airdromes.

Reviews

"Golden Earrings"

(*Paramount*)

Hollywood, Aug. 27

RAY Milland and Marlene Dietrich are the top names with which to bill this Mitchell Leisen production of the somewhat torrid Yolanda Foldes novel of the same name, and Director Leisen has retained enough of the novel's torridity to satisfy the readers of the novel, veneering it skillfully with humor and getting it over into straight melodrama that packs substantial punch. Quentin Reynolds, playing himself in the picture, and Murvyn Vye, a Broadway import, are other payers whose presence add exploitability to the property. The attraction is off the beaten track and gives promise of being widely discussed.

Produced by Harry Tugend, from a script by Abraham Polonsky, Frank Butler and Helen Deutsch, the picture opens in the postwar with Milland, who's been a British colonel in the conflict, an object of reporter Reynolds' interest on account of his ears having been pierced for earrings. Milland, receiving a pair of gold earrings, sets off to Paris on a plane with Reynolds and tells him the story en route.

Switching back to the period immediately prior to the German invasion of Poland, the picture takes Milland into Germany in secret quest of a poison-gas formula. Captured by the Gestapo, and escaping, he is pursued by the Nazis and accepts the succor and shelter—with which goes wholesale and persistent personal blandishments—of a Gypsy, played to the utmost by Miss Dietrich. She pierces his ears, dyes his skin, introduces him to the tribe, whose leader, played by Vye, he bests in a spectacular fight, and she aids him in his successful mission and, as the war starts, sends him back to his country. The war over, she sends him the golden earrings, and he flies to rejoin her, both having discovered that their emotional relationship was true love.

The Leisen skill in the use of mood is effectively employed throughout, with the result that the light handling of voluptuous material in the first half of the picture sets a level from which the melodramatic last half gains impact. It is not, of course, appropriate for the very young.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Hal Roach Comedy Carnival"

(*Hal Roach—United Artists*)

Hollywood, Aug. 27

THE first two-in-one feature offered by Hal Roach proved itself a laugh-getter of major proportions as previewed, without advance billing before a Carthay Circle Theatre audience attracted by a melodrama. That doubtless is a better index of its value than any analysis or guess by a professional observer, for the professional is of necessity faced with the fact that no such combining of two subjects into one has been offered heretofore. Strictly on the basis of audience reaction, it is to be concluded that the industry's No. 1 Master of Comedy knew what he was about when he conceived this new kind of attraction.

"The Hal Roach Comedy Carnival" consists of two separate and distinct comedy pictures in Cinecolor, each bearing its own title, and the total running time is 111 minutes, the first subject running 53 minutes and the second 58. Not only are the subjects separate and distinct, but the first, "Curley," is a film in the Our Gang tradition, concerning mischievous school kids and their mentors, and the second, "The Fabulous Joe," is a parlor-bedroom-bath type of subject designed for adult and reasonably sophisticated consumption. On points, it would appear an uncongenial pairing of subjects, and may prove so in certain kinds of situations, but the Carthay Circle audience laughed steadily and impartially at both.

"Curley," produced by Robert F. McGowan and directed by Bernard Carr, from a screenplay by Dorothy Reid, based on a story by McGowan, offers Frances Rafferty—young Larry Olsen, a likeable kid handling the title role—Eilene Janssen, Dale Belding, Gerald Perreau and a large cast of children. It has the flavor of the Our Gangs, in full measure, but it also has heart.

"The Fabulous Joe," produced by Bebe Daniels and directed by Harve Foster, from a screenplay by Jack Jevne and Arnold Belgard, based on a story by Hal Roach, Jr., offers Walter Abel, Marie Wilson, Margot Grahame, Donald Meek, Sheldon Leonard, Barbara Bates, Clarence Kolb, Donald McBride, Lucien Littlefield and other dependables in a slick telling of a glib story about a modest gentleman who gets a bit tipsy, fancies his dog is voicing sage advice about how to cope with a socially-minded wife, takes said advice, and becomes embarrassingly but innocently involved with a curvaceous blonde and finds himself in all sorts of dubious complications. The juvenile trade, which may be counted on to love "Curley," may find itself a bit above its depth when the second picture gets rolling.

Running time, 111 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W. R. W.

Para. Suit Postponed

Paramount's summary judgment motion for $100,000 against George Browne, deposed head of IATSE, and his representative, Willie Bioff, has been adjourned in New York Federal Court to September 23. The company contends this amount was paid unwillingly to Browne and Bioff between 1936 and 1938 when the two had threatened a strike of the entire union.

Denies Writ to CSU

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 27.—The District Court of Appeals has denied a petition by Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, and seven others for a writ of prohibition to halt their trial on Nov. 3 on conspiracy charges arising from mass picketing in the early stages of the present strike.

Economy Drive in Hollywood: Koster

A drive is now on in Hollywood to cut expenses to meet the losses resulting from the British tax, Henry Koster, director now under contract to Samuel Goldwyn, declared here yesterday. He asserted, however, that Hollywood should be careful in its economy moves, "because they might make mistakes and dismiss val[illegible] people."

Koster, who has just completed "The Bishop's Wife" for Goldwyn, left on the *Queen Mary* yesterday for Europe. While abroad he will study the possibilities of a film on occupied Germany. He will return Nov. 2.

Regarding the British tax, Koster expressed confidence that "they will modify their stand because they need our product as much as we need their market."

Discussing enormous production costs, he said that Hollywood itself is in part to blame because of its terrific salaries. Touching upon product, he observed that because of huge investments, "Hollywood cannot risk failure," and so must make pictures along lines that have been tested and proved.

Welles Subpoenaed In Hollywood Probe

WASHINGTON, Aug. 27. — Former Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles and four other Government officials have been subpoenaed to appear at the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings on Communist infiltration in Hollywood, to begin here Sept. 24.

J. Parnell Thomas, committee chairman, said that Welles would be asked to explain how Hans Eisler, film composer, obtained permission to enter the U. S. and remain here.

Others called to testify are: George Messersmith, former Ambassador to Mexico and Argentina; Joseph Saboretti, Assistant Immigration Commissioner; Clarence R. Lorter, chief inspector of the Immigration Service in Calexico, Cal., and T. C. Hutton, Second Secretary and Consul of the Foreign Service at Guatemala City.

Through With Films, Says Eddie Cantor

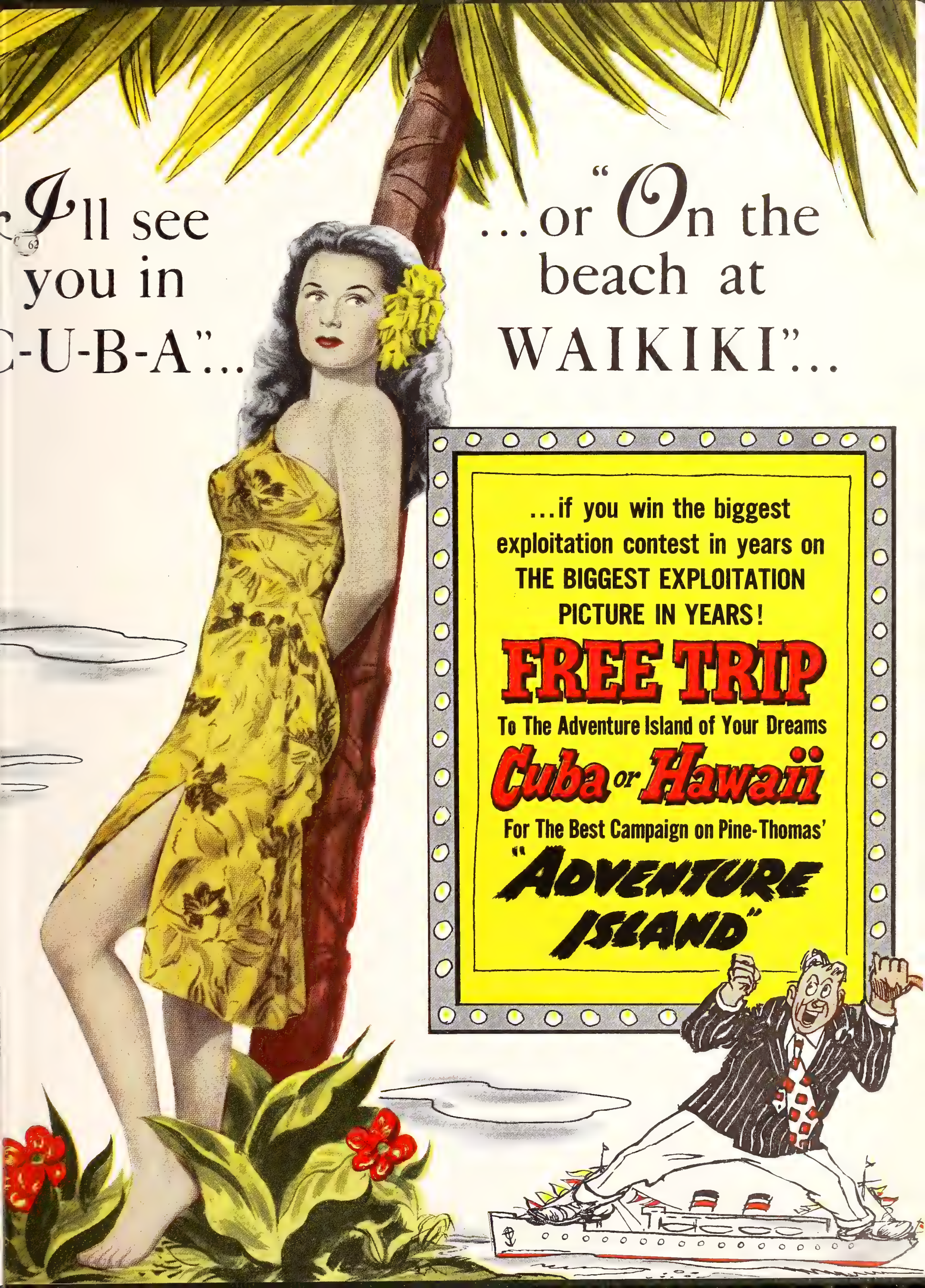
Eddie Cantor, who has just finished "If You Knew Susie" for RKO Radio, has declared here that he is through making pictures. He said that he wants to travel to England, France or Palestine "on humanitarian work." Cantor praised the morale-building effects of films, and added also that he would aid in an advisory capacity on the filming of his life next year by Warner Brothers. Cantor on Sept. 3 will be presented with the Humanitarian Award of the year from the United Jewish Appeal in Philadelphia.

Mexicans Seek Tax Cut

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 27.—Exhibitors here are drafting a petition to the municipal government to cut in half the 15 per cent tax on grosses, a levy that is collected daily.

French Films to Skouras

Siritzky International has signed a one-year agreement with Skouras Theatres whereby the latter will exhibit a minimum of six French films.



I'll see
you in
C-U-B-A"...

..."On the
beach at
WAIKIKI"...

...if you win the biggest exploitation contest in years on THE BIGGEST EXPLOITATION PICTURE IN YEARS!

FREE TRIP

To The Adventure Island of Your Dreams

Cuba or Hawaii

For The Best Campaign on Pine-Thomas'

"ADVENTURE ISLAND"

Get Complete Details of the Showmen's Prize Contest in the PARAMOUNT Pressbook or Septemb
Sixth "Motion Picture Herald"—Then Start Work on The Biggest Campaign of Your Career for

"ADVENTURE ISLAND"

In Sun-Luscious
CINECOLOR

•

Based on the Famous Novel "Ebb Tide" by

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

Who Gave You "Kidnapped," "Treasure Island" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde"

•

PINE-THOMAS'
Biggest Production—Their First in Color

Starring

RORY CALHOUN

The Screen's New Swoon Sensation

RHONDA FLEMING

Hollywood's Gorgeous New Sarong Girl

PAUL KELLY

with JOHN ABBOTT • ALAN NAPIER

Directed by
PETER STEWART

Screenplay by Maxwell Shane • Based on "Ebb Tide" by Robert Louis Stevenson and Lloyd Osbourne

Lovely captive of a jungle-crazed "White God," she braved the madness of 20 desperate men caged by the vastness of the sea!

KEEP AMERICA UNCONQUERED

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

[illegible]S ANGELES

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer", in its second week, continued to overshadow all other first-runs in a week of ideal theatre weather which seemed, unexplainably, no stimulant to most other box-offices. Estimated receipts for the week ended August 27:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio) — HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $26,000 (Average: $19,800)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,800)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $26,600)

BLAZE OF NOON (Para.) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,100)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,200)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,400)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,100)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $11,500)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,200)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $28,600)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $8.500. (Average: $11,500)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,200)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 6 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18.260)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue) —WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 6 days. Gross: $15.000. (Average: $15,500)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue) —WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 6 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,900)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,100)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,500)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,800)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BLONDIE'S HOLIDAY (Col.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,100)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) — FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,300)

THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,600)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and THE BIG FIX (E-L)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,900)

SINGAPORE (U-I) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,200)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9.600)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,100)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and THE BIG FIX (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,800)

KANSAS CITY

Grosses were generally good despite the heat wave. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 27:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,000) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $2,300. (Average: $1,750)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,000)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,000)

NEW ORLEANS (UA) and KING OF THE WILD HORSES (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.) and JEWELS OF BRANDENBURG (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,750. (Average: $5,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c) 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

CLEVELAND

"Crossfire" registered strong in a week that was marked by terrific heat. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 26-27:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $14,250. (Average: $15,500)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $21,800. (Average: $12,000)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500)

DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue) and MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,250)

JOLSON STORY (Col. reissue)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $2,500)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

Review

"Frieda"

(Rank-Universal-International)

A REMARKABLY quiet and orderly treatment of a fully developed story concerning a German war bride in England is offered in J. Arthur Rank's "Frieda." It is an intensely interesting affair, gaining dramatic effect in a manner that might be likened to the orator's use of an understatement. This calmness of story-telling is rather unique and is likely to find many an appreciative audience on these shores. Trade-wise, it seems reasonable to assume, however, there is the matter of proper marketing, for liveliness is not the forte of "Frieda."

An assortment of players whose names mean little here, but who provide complete evidence of capability, enact the story of the German girl's encounter with the belligerent family and friends of her husband, an R. A. F. officer whose escape from a Nazi prison she had engineered. The animosity turns to friendliness with war's end, however, but this comes after numerous, believable emotional and physical crises in the development of the story.

The picture constantly strikes a note of reality, as evidenced in part by the German girl's refusal to recognize the validity of her Protestant marriage ceremony, she being a Catholic, and insisting on rites in her own church only after she has been "accepted" by the British.

Cast principals include David Farrar, Glynis Johns, Mai Zetterling, Flora Robson and Albert Lieven, all good, with Miss Robson outstanding. Basil Dearden directed with impressive restraint. The screenplay is by Angus McPhail and Ronald Millar, taken from an original by Millar.

Running time, 97 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEI

Ascap Action

(Continued from page 1)

the Attorney General now, and the Congress as soon as possible, intervene in this situation and block Ascap's threatened extortion and so neutralize its power that it can never again renew the effort."

Ascap's powers are derived from the Copyright Law, the bulletin stated, and "it is unthinkable that Congress will continue to repose such authority in a body which has shown that it is no longer worthy of its confidence."

Ascap's action will set up an "intolerable obstruction" to interstate commerce, Myers stated, and threatens to make films commercially valueless if the motion picture exhibitors of the United States "submit to its exaction."

The bulletin asserts that under the present Copyright Law, "the cards are stacked on favor of Ascap in any direct contest with the exhibitors." Should exhibitors refuse to take out licenses at the new rates, forcing Ascap to bring suits against them, the risk would be too great for exhibitors to incur—if, as seems highly probable, "the issue should go against the exhibitors," Myers says.

Allied's recently proposed measure which would require Ascap to deal with motion picture producers instead of exhibitors has not been regarded by exhibitors as "sufficiently drastic," the bulletin stated.

Never before, the bulletin charges, has the Attorney General been confronted with such a flagrant violation of the Sherman Act.

"This office recognizes that the Department of Justice may be somewhat embarrassed by the improvident and ineffectual consent decree entered against Ascap several years ago," the bulletin continues, "but since that proceeding did not involve any such extortionate action as Ascap has now taken, we believe that a court would be slow to hold that the former decree barred a criminal prosecution based on the present flagrant abuse of power."

However, the bulletin declared, even though "it is inconceivable that the Attorney General and Congress will fail to act," exhibitors will do all in their power to protect themselves. Allied is at present engaged in investigating pending and prospective actions against Ascap to see if the association can help out.

Calling Ascap a "vicious monopoly," the bulletin states that Ascap has "incurred the active opposition and enmity of a large and important class of businessmen whose influence, unlike Ascap's, is not confined to a single state and city."

Ascap's members should weigh carefully the temporary advantages of the rate increase over the loss of prestige and good will, the bulletin concludes, "not to mention the long and bitter struggle and the probable consequences thereof, if Ascap follows through on its extortionate demands."

NY Owners vs. Ascap

(Continued from page 1)

be effective until determination of the trust suit which the plaintiffs, mostly members of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, have pending, charging Ascap with restraint of trade.

MMPTA May Meet Here Wednesday on Ascap

Tentatively scheduled here for next Wednesday is a meeting of the executive committee of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, Oscar Doob, Loew's Theatres executive and member of the committee, said here yesterday. The group intends to consider methods of preventing the increased fees for music performance rights planned by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

$70,000 for Yeshiva

In making his annual report to George J. Schaefer, chairman of the motion picture committee for Yeshiva University, Jacob Salzman, administrative director of the university, discloses that nearly $70,000 has been raised within the industry for scholarships.

Yucca Signs Carson

Robert M. Savini, president of Yucca Pictures Corp., has signed Sunset Carson to be featured in six action pictures, which will be released and distributed through Astor franchise exchanges. First will be released on Oct. 10.

GPE Sets Dividend

Directors of General Precision Equipment Corp. yesterday declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the capital stock, payable Sept. 25 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Sept. 9.

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U.S.-Owned Studios Available to British

LONDON, Aug. 27. — American-owned studio space in England which can be used for production has been made available to British production units, Fay Allport, Motion Picture Association representative here, said today, in answer to British unions' request to the government for utilization of such space to meet the U. S. ban on film exports to Britain. M-G-M has the only American-owned studio available. The Warner studio is still undergoing repairs of blitz-damage, while the British government has hitherto refused 20th-Fox a license to recondition its Wembly plant.

Prior to the British tax, M-G-M entered into agreements with British independents to utilize its Elstree studio in view of the fact that plans by Ben Goetz, M-G-M executive here, to produce Metro's own films, are not ready. The studio, thus, has been used for the past four months, with a long line of independents anxious to utilize it, especially since Goetz, following his arrival here four days ago, refused to disclose any production plans.

To Resume Tax Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

MPA said the talks would be resumed in London "within the next 30 to 60 days." However, MPA officials indicated it would probably be much sooner. They said Johnston would fly to London to participate in the discussions if necessary.

MPA said representatives of the independent producers are also expected to be present.

Johnston and James Mulvey, representing the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, met here last Saturday with Sir Wilfrid, shortly before the latter's return to London to report to the British Cabinet.

The MPA president today let up on his program of calling on top U. S. Government officials to start on a huge pile of work accumulated at his office here. It was understood he was in conference with MPA legal counsel James F. Byrnes.

UK Sees Film Savings

(*Continued from page* 1)

ings on films will amount to 11,000,000 pounds ($44,000,000).

The Attlee government's latest step slashed food rations, ended non-essential automobile driving, and prohibited pleasure trips abroad. The meat ration was reduced from 22 cents to 20 cents a week, effective Sept. 7, while ration point values of other foods will be revised, beginning Sept. 14.

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Advertisement

Buffet Film Heads

(*Continued from page* 1)

the same plane, were: Albert Warner, Barney Balaban, Charles Prutzman, Nicholas M. Schenck, James R. Grainger, John J. O'Connor, Spyros Skouras, Ned E. Depinet and Jack Cohn, it was learned on their return to their offices yesterday.

The plane ran into the storm about a half-hour out of Washington. Changes of course and altitude by the pilot failed to succeed in avoiding any of the force of the storm. Passengers aboard the plane estimated that it dropped 500 feet at times when caught in down-drafts and air pockets.

The storm reached New York in the late afternoon, halting transportation lines and causing widespread damage from lightning, but ending a four-day heat wave.

The industry executive delegation which met in Washington Tuesday had sweltered throughout the afternoon there from the prevailing humid heat, with the air-conditioning system for the MPA's meeting room out of commission.

The inconvenience of the trip to Washington, coupled with the discomfort of the meeting room and the final hazards of the plane trip back did not go unmentioned by many of those who endured the experience. It was explained that the meeting had been scheduled for Washington to save Eric Johnston, MPA president, the trip to New York. The MPA president has bursitis.

Johnston reported to the meeting on his and James A. Mulvey's conference last Saturday with Sir Wilfrid Eady, head of the recent British financial mission to the United States, and on Johnston's conferences this week with Secretary of the Treasury Snyder, Acting Secretary of Commerce William C. Foster and State Department officials, on foreign trade conditions generally, as well as on the British film tax.

The U. S. government's views are not optimistic, it was reported, and the meeting also was given the opinion that influential British government officials do not want American motion pictures depicting a prosperous, well-fed and contented populace to further arouse conjecture and resentment as Britain faces new cuts in food supplies and other essentials of life. The view also was expressed that a large majority of the British people are backing the government on the film tax.

Suggestion was made by Gradwell Sears, United Artists president, that the embargo on films to England be brought into immediate focus by withdrawing pictures now in England. The stenographic record of the meeting reportedly was swelled to four times its standard size by Sears.

M P T O A Supports Embargo on Britain

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 27.—The American exhibitor should stand solidly behind the American distributors' embargo on film shipments to Britain, Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, declares in a current bulletin to members.

"The best solution of the British film tax problem would, of course, be a compromise," he writes. "Britain should immediately recognize the error of her way and sit down to iron out the difficulties on a live-and-let-live basis."

More Restrictions Are Seen Abroad

Reports that restrictions on Hollywood and other foreign motion picture imports are contemplated in France, Brazil, Mexico and Argentina are understood to have reached some home office foreign department heads here yesterday. It was said the decisions to effect restrictions had been reached by those governments within the past 48 hours. They follow Great Britain's recent enactment of a 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Chifley was reported yesterday to have told film industry leaders in Australia that film earnings on imports should be cut 80 per cent to 20 per cent of last year's. His action was taken to save dollars.

Pagnol Urges U. S. to Aid French Industry

The French film industry will collapse unless Hollywood comes to its rescue immediately, Marcel Pagnol, French playwright and scenario writer, said at a press, radio and film conference organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, press dispatches reaching here from Paris reported yesterday.

"The French film industry is no longer profitable," Pagnol stated. "The only hope of resumption is in the hands of the Americans. It would be sufficient if they would open their market for one week each year to each French producer."

End of Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

this week by saying that it has taken Kearns' proposal under advisement, the Conference of Studio Unions professed readiness to accept the subcommittee's aid in settling the dispute.

Chief witness at today's hearing was Herman Barstein, Pine-Thomas production manager, who testified that the company, which had enjoyed peaceful labor relations until six months ago, was forced to shut down in mid-July until the Taft-Hartley law went into effect. The shutdown came he said, following an ultimatum by IATSE international representative Roy Brewer that the company must eliminate CSU workmen or else IATSE crafts would withhold their services. Barstein said the union permitted the company to finish two pictures, then in production, after gaining a committment that IATSE crews would be employed thereafter.

It is believed that an attempt to arrange a strike settlement would be undertaken by Kearns tomorrow or Friday, possibly requiring extension of the hearings into next week.

15% Operators' Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

provides for a 15 per cent wage increase, and a six-year contract, with a clause for reopening every two years.

The union, preparing for a show-down, with the Loew and RKO circuits, is holding a membership of 800 meeting here today, and has also sent out notices for a mass meeting at Manhattan Center for Monday morning, effective date of its original strike vote. The notices inform the membership that a strike roll-call will be taken on Monday.

Unions Sign Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

leasing today shows that we need to streamline our laws, rules and regulations. We will do this and at the same time continue to assure adequate safe-guards for our people."

He commented that the labor peace agreement "constitutes an outstanding contribution to stabilization in the industry and also to the efforts of the city to bring a greater portion of the industry here."

Maguire's report made the following recommendations:

That the city distribute to all motion picture producers an analysis of all local laws, rules and regulations applying to the industry; that the Mayor designate a representative to conduct hearings with representatives of the industry and make recommendations to streamline the legal requirements of various city departments and agencies; that while hearings are in progress, a coordinator be appointed to handle filming application permits and expedite their clearance, and that the coordinator aid the companies to secure studios and such other facilities as they may require.

The report stressed that conditions in New York "are stabilized and not subject to jurisdictional disputes," and added that labor costs here are lower than in Hollywood. Observers at City Hall pointed out that 12 unions here do the work that is parceled out among 20 unions in Hollywood.

Maguire had several conferences with real estate men and other business interests, as a result of which the report said that, "studio facilities available here are not fully used," that "further adequate facilities, without capital investment by the industry, could readily be made available," and that "private capital, too, is ready and willing to construct modern studios . . . on receipt of reasonably firm commitments from the industry."

The report declared that the city, "not motion picture-conscious, is burdened with laws, rules and requirements, many of which are wholly unnecessary." It pointed out that red-tape in obtaining the many necessary filming permits had been costly to companies desiring to take "shots" in the city's streets and parks.

Signing the labor pact with the Mayor were: Charles W. Hanson, president, District Council of New York, United Brotherhood of Carpenters; Rudy Karnolt, business agent, United Scenic Artists Local No. 829, Brotherhood of Painters; Thomas A. Murtha, chairman, legislative committee, 10th District, N. Y., IATSE; Sal J. Scoppa, business manager, Local No. 52, Studio Mechanics, IATSE; Robert H. Klaeger, president, Local No. 771, Film Editors IATSE; Herman Gelber, Operators Local No. 306, IATSE; George Cline, president, Motion Picture Assistant Directors, Local No. 161, IATSE; John J. Visconti, secretary, International Photographers of the Motion Picture Industry, Local No. 644; Ada Nelligan, Wardrobe Attendants Local No. 764, IATSE; Vera Dorey, acting president, Laboratory Technicians Local No. 702, IATSE; Martin T. Lacey, Jr., business agent, Theatrical Drivers and Chauffeurs Local No. 817, and Richard McCann, president, Associated Musicians of New York, Local No. 802. Florence Marston, Eastern representative of the Screen Actors Guild, sent a covering letter in general agreement with the pact.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
July 27		GHOST TOWN RENEGADES Al La Rue O—(754) (Rev. 8/1/47) CARAVAN Stewart Granger Jean Kent D	(July Releases) CYNTHIA Elizabeth Taylor Mary Astor D—98 min. (726) (Rev. 5/20/47)	ROBIN HOOD OF MONTEREY Gilbert Roland D		SPRINGTIME IN THE SIERRAS (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (646) (Rev. 7/31/47) ROBIN HOOD OF TEXAS Gene Autry O—71 min.	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(July Releases) MEET ME AT DAWN William Eythe Hazel Court D—99 min. (721)		(July Releases) THE VIGILANTES RETURN (Color) Jon Hall Margaret Lindsay O—67 min. (618) (Rev. 6/2/47)	
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.		FIESTA (Color) Esther Williams M—104 min. (727) (Rev. 6/12/47)	NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)		BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min. (617) (Rev. 8/4/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) THE CRIMSON KEY Kent Taylor D—76 min. (722) (Rev. 7/1/47)	(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)	GREAT EXPECTATIONS John Mills Valerie Hobson Francis L. Sullivan D—115 min. (619) (Rev. 3/25/47)	
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.	RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Reprint) GREAT WALTZ Luise Rainer M—102 min. (723) (Rev. 11/3/38)	FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (618) (Rev. 7/28/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min. (Rev. 8/18/47)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min.		
Aug. 24		RAILROADED John Ireland D	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)			(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)			(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)			(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)		SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D		(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)		EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)		LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 14		OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min.	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C		DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens		THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	DUSTY TRAIL O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 10/29/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min.
Sept. 28				KING OF THE BANDITS			CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (Rev. 10/20/41)			
Oct. 5					ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (Rev. 8/11/47)						

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

WARNER BROS. TRADE SHOWINGS OF

HUMPHREY **BOGART** · LAUREN **BACALL**

in

"DARK PASSAGE"

with

BRUCE BENNETT · AGNES MOOREHEAD · TOM D'ANDREA

Directed by **DELMER DAVES** • Screen Play by Delmer Daves
From the Novel by David Goodis • Music by Franz Waxman • Produced by **JERRY WALD**

TUESDAY, SEPT. 2nd, 1947

CITY	PLACE OF SHOWING	ADDRESS	TIME
Albany	Warner Screening Room	79 N. Pearl St.	12:30 P.M.
Atlanta	RKO Screening Room	191 Walton St. N.W.	2:30 P.M.
Boston	RKO Screening Room	122 Arlington St.	2:30 P.M.
Buffalo	Paramount Exchange	464 Franklin Street	2:00 P.M.
Charlotte	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	308 S. Church St.	10:00 A.M.
Chicago	Warner Screening Room	1307 So. Wabash Ave.	1:30 P.M.
Cincinnati	RKO Screening Room	Palace Th. Bldg. E. 6th	2:00 P.M.
Cleveland	Warner Screening Room	2300 Payne Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Dallas	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1803 Wood St.	10:00 A.M.
Denver	Paramount Sc. Room	2100 Stout St.	2:00 P.M.
Des Moines	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1300 High St.	3:00 P.M.
Detroit	Film Exchange Bldg.	2310 Cass Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Indianapolis	Paramount Sc. Room	116 W. Michigan St.	1:00 P.M.
Kansas City	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1720 Wyandotte St.	1:30 P.M.
Los Angeles	Warner Screening Room	2025 S. Vermont Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Memphis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	151 Vance Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Milwaukee	Warner Th. Sc. Rm.	212 W. Wisconsin Ave.	2:00 P.M.
Minneapolis	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1015 Currie Ave. N.	10:00 A.M.
New Haven	Warner Th. Proj. Rm.	70 College St.	2:00 P.M.
New Orleans	Paramount Sc. Room	215 S. Liberty St.	10:00 A.M.
New York	Home Office	321 W. 44th St.	2:30 P.M.
Oklahoma	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	10 North Lee St.	11:00 A.M.
Omaha	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1502 Davenport St.	1:00 P.M.
Philadelphia	Warner Screening Room	230 No. 13th St.	2:30 P.M.
Pittsburgh	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	1715 Blvd. of Allies	1:30 P.M.
Portland	Jewel Box Sc. Room	1947 N.W. Kearney St.	10:00 A.M.
Salt Lake	20th Century-Fox Sc. Rm.	216 East 1st South	2:00 P.M.
San Francisco	Republic Sc. Room	221 Golden Gate Ave.	11:30 A.M.
Seattle	Jewel Box Sc. Room	2318 Second Ave.	10:30 A.M.
St. Louis	S'renco Sc. Room	3143 Olive St.	1:00 P.M.
Washington	Earle Th. Bldg.	13th & E Sts. N.W.	10:30 A.M.

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July Taxes Up $7,142,453 Over June, '47

Figure Reflects Receipts For the Previous Month

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—General admission tax collections in July, reflecting June box-office receipts, were almost $1,000,000 ahead of July, 1946, according to figures released here today by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

July, 1947, collections amounted to $34,972,436, compared with $33,980,404 in July, 1946, and $27,829,982 in June, 1947, the latter representing May box-office receipts.

While part of the increase can be attributed to taxes accruing from baseball and summer entertainment enterprises—the latter were not in full operation all of June; however, motion picture theatre admission taxes are generally regarded as representing some 80 per cent of the total reported by the Revenue Bureau.

The figures for general admissions do not include collections from roof gardens, cabarets, ticket brokers, leases of boxes, or overcharges.

Producer-IATSE 'Tie' Hit by Sorrell

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 28.— "There is a conspiracy between some labor leaders and this industry's leaders that is not good for either labor or the industry" CSU president Herbert Sorrell today charged at the House Labor subcommittee hearing. Principal witness today, Sorrell read into the record his notes covering the entire history of studio labor disputes, declaring that producers abruptly adopted a closed shop policy in 1935 on the basis of giving IATSE the balance of power.

In 1939, Sorrell said, he and others dissatisfied with IATSE control, took the first steps toward breaking this control.

Sorrell testified that Hollywood la-

(*Continued on page* 4)

No Paper Monday

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be pubished on Monday, Labor Day, a legal holiday.**

Celler Will Probe ASCAP

A resolution calling for an investigation of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and for remedial legislation to "safeguard exhibitors in this country," will definitely be introduced by Congressman Emanuel Celler at the next session of Congress. Celler had said earlier this week that he would consider offering such a resolution.

Celler, in condemning ASCAP's 300 per cent boost in theatre music license fees, said yesterday that "this inflationary increase of over 300 per cent, especially at a time when President Truman seeks to hold the line on prices of goods and services, has no justification in terms of increased costs, but is an unconscionable grab at the American purse.

"ASCAP, for 14 years, has extracted large sums annually from motion picture admissions." Its attempt to increase this revenue "reflects all the evils of unbridled monopoly," he added.

"Such an attack on free enterprise calls for immediate investigation to determine whether there exists a conspiracy among the dominant music publishing members of ASCAP and their motion picture producing parent companies to eliminate free competition between the large affiliated motion picture exhibitors and the independent exhibitor."

See UK Expecting Plan to Continue Importing U.S. Films

LONDON, Aug. 28. — Ministerial circles here admit the significance of the omission of films from the British government's new list of "positively decreed" import cuts, issued Wednesday, as an indication of the government's implied acceptance of the fact that a plan may be worked out to continue American film imports.

The estimated saving of $44,000,000, previously mentioned in a semi-official statement, merely represents the yield of the Dalton 75 per cent tax, were imports of American films to run normally. Informed circles consider this, too, an indication of the government's hope of a plan of film imports, and be-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Hamrick to Head Northwest MPF

SEATTLE, Aug. 28.—John Hamrick was elected chairman, Jim McNabe, vice-chairman, and Jim Hone, secretary-treasurer at an organizational luncheon held here today for a Northwest Motion Picture Foundation. Ben S. Shearer was elected trustee and will represent the branch at the October convention of Foundation units.

Evelyn Keyes Is No. 1 In Showmen's Star Poll

New Utah-Idaho Unit Ready in Two Weeks

Salt Lake City, Aug. 28.—Utah and Southern Idaho independent exhibitors will form their new, previously discussed organization within the next two weeks so they can formally join the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors. They were unanimously accepted into membership in the PCCITO during its trustees meeting in Salt Lake City last week.

Harold Chesler of Bingham; J. L. Firmage, Milford; Jay C. Christensen, Salt Lake, and Julian N. Bills of Bountiful are the most prominent exhibitors working for the new unit.

No. 1 "Star of Tomorrow" is Evelyn Keyes, so voted by both independent and circuit exhibitors in the annual poll conducted by *Motion Picture Herald.* Miss Keyes launched her screen career in 1938 with a minor role in "The Buccaneer" and recently scored with her top performance in "The Jolson Story."

The combined vote of exhibitors in the *Herald's* canvass places nine other top "Stars of Tomorrow" in this order: Billy De Wolfe, Peter Lawford, Janis Paige, Elizabeth Taylor, Claude Jarman, Jr., Janet Blair, MacDonald Carey, Gail Russell and Richard Conte.

Also in their combined vote the the theatremen decided the next 15 as follows: Audrey Totter, Lucille Bremer, Angela Lansbury, Olga San Juan, Martha Vickers, Bobby Driscoll, Gale Storm, Ann Blyth, Edmond O'Brien, Cathy O'Donnell, Phyllis Thaxter, Barbara Britton, Beverly

(*Continued on page* 4)

U.S. to Defer Ruling on U.K. Tax Legality

Silent on British Plan To Leave Dollars Here

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Observers here see little likelihood of a government ruling on the industry's contention that the British film tax is in violation of existing Anglo-American trade treaties and financial agreements until after the industry has exhausted every means at its command of arriving at a settlement of the tax problem with the British.

As one State Department official put it today: "We don't want to do anything which will disturb the situation unnecessarily at a time when Eric Johnston and Sid Wilfrid Eady may be on the verge of working something out."

The Motion Picture Association president conferred with the head of the British financial mission by overseas telephone yesterday and, it is reasonable to believe, their conversations will be resumed in due time and will involve an exchange of view-

(*Continued on page* 4)

RKO Pathe Takes Over RKO Video

RKO television activities will be operated as a department of RKO Pathe, after Sept. 10, when Ralph B. Austrian will leave as president of RKO Television Corp. to become vice-president in charge of television for Foote, Cone and Belding, advertising agency for RKO.

The agency is currently engaged in placing television contracts for its clients on all commercially-operated stations.

Austrian, a pioneer in the television industry, was formerly associated with RCA Manufacturing Co. as assistant vice-president, and was with the planning committee of the War Production Board. He has also been active in the affairs of the Television Broadcasters Association, and the Society of Motion Picture Engineers.

2 Reviews Today

"Out of the Blue" and "Joe Palooka in the Knockout" are reviewed on page 3. Key city gross reports are on page 4.

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic sales chief, left here yesterday by plane for a Western sales trip. He will be joined by EDWARD L. WALTON, assistant general sales manager, who will fly to Los Angeles on Monday.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, vice-president and general sales manager of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., and MRS. SACHSON have announced the engagement of their daughter, JANET CAROL, to MARVIN ZUCKERMAN, son of MRS. RHODA ZUCKERMAN and the late NAT ZUCKERMAN.

•

CHARLES B. MOSS, managing director of Loew's Criterion Theatre and owner of several other theatres in the metropolitan area, and MRS. MOSS have become parents of a daughter, VIRGINIA PAULA.

•

BURTON ASTOR, son of LOUIS ASTOR, Columbia circuit sales executive, was graduated from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, yesterday.

•

ROBERT W. SELIG, assistant to the president of Fox Intermountain Theatres, has been cited by the Fifth Army for "meritorious work in behalf of army recruiting."

•

JOHN D. DONOGHUE, former motion picture editor of the Springfield (Mass.) *Daily News*, has been named public relations director at St. Michael's College, Winooski Park, Vt.

•

BERNARD G. KRANZE, assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal-International, is in Nashville from New York.

•

DAVID L. LOEW, Enterprise executive, is en route to the Coast following discussions with United Artists executives here.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, has returned here from a tour of the mid-West and Prairie areas.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M reprints and importations, is in Los Angeles after completing a tour of Coast exchanges.

•

HARRY A. SEED, mid-West district manager for Warner, is in town for home office conferences, and will return to Chicago over the weekend.

•

E. W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, and JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern sales manager, are en route to the Coast from New York.

•

HOWARD STRICKLING, M-G-M studio publicity head, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M sales head, is in Hollywood from New York.

Ansco Ad Manager Dunn Is Promoted

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Aug. 28.—Robert M. Dunn, advertising manager of Ansco, has been appointed assistant general sales manager in charge of merchandising. Dunn's promotion, together with other appointments in the sales department, were announced here today by C. W. Priesing, sales manager.

In his new post, Dunn will be responsible for development, execution and co-ordination of all advertising, merchandising and sales promotion plans of the company. All members of the Binghamton sales staff will be under his supervision. For the time being his headquarters will continue to be in New York City.

In addition to Dunn's, new appointments in the sales department include those of John J. Skahill, to manage graphic arts sales; Harry A. Reeve, to manage sales service, and L. H. Purcell, promoted from assistant district manager of the Boston branch to district manager.

Kaufman Heads U-I Studio Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—John L. (Les) Kaufman today was assigned the post of director of studio publicity at Universal-International, by John Joseph, national director of U-I advertising-publicity, the assignment to take effect Sept. 15. Kaufman has been director of promotion and radio for U-I for the past year and formerly was publicity-advertising director for International Pictures.

Kaufman succeeds J. W. (Pete) Dailey, whose resignation is effective Sept. 13. Daily joined Universal in 1942 as national newspaper contact and was promoted to publicity director in Feb., 1944.

Maguire To Meet with Industry Next Week

Edward C. Maguire, New York City coordinator for film production, will meet here with industry representatives next Thursday to speed the streamlining of city regulations which have tended to clog efficient local production.

Maguire, who prepared a report on the matter at Mayor O'Dwyer's request, said yesterday that he had not yet had an opportunity to discuss further steps with industry representatives.

Files for Video Permit

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28. — Earle C. Anthony has applied for construction permits for two experimental television relay broadcast stations in Los Angeles and neighboring counties, the Federal Communications Commission announces. The FCC also reported that the Empire Coil Co. had applied for a construction permit for a new commercial television station in Avon, Conn.

Jacob Altschuler Dies

Jacob Altschuler, father of Richard W. Altschuler, president of Republic International, died here Wednesday at Mt. Sinai Hospital. He had been active in music circles.

Advertising Code Is Cited to Exhibitors

The Advertising Advisory Council of the Motion Picture Association, campaigning for adherence by all branches of the industry to the principles of the Advertising Code, has issued a summary of those principles for the information of exhibitors. They are:

Don't reveal details of crime that might inspire imitation; don't show lustful kissing; don't exhibit excessive gruesomeness; don't exploit censorship disputes; don't offend races and religions; don't use profanity, vulgar or sacrilegious language; don't indulge in undue exposure of the human anatomy; don't use false or misleading statements; don't be unfair to the history or nationals of other countries; don't show the use of liquor unless it is an essential of the plot; don't undermine the laws of the land and common sense.

Greenthal Agency To Handle E-L's Ads

Monroe Greenthal, Inc., New York, has been named advertising representative of Eagle-Lion, Max Youngstein, E-L advertising-publicity director disclosed here yesterday.

The Greenthal agency will handle local and national campaigns in newspapers, national and fan magazines and radio, for all Eagle-Lion Hollywood productions, J. Arthur Rank British films released by E-L, and all other product of the company.

8 Paramount Films Set at $12,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—Paramount's production program from now until December calls for eight pictures, to cost $12,000,000, Henry Ginsberg, studio head, announced here today.

The films are: "The Canadian," "The Long Grey Line," "Sainted Sisters," "The Sealed Verdict," "A Foreign Affair," "A Connecticut Yankee," "Hazard," and "Sorrowful Jones."

Allied Hits Gambling

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey has passed a resolution urging the New Jersey constitutional convention to retain the present state constitutional reference against gambling "inasmuch as the motion picture business is one of those we feel would be seriously jeopardized by any change in the old constitution as it relates to gambling."

U-I Sales Meet Over

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 28.—A three-day Universal-International sales meeting was concluded here today by Fred Meyers, Eastern division manager.

Hickson Resigns as Stromberg Manager

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28. — Daniel C. Hickson has resigned as general manager of Hunt Stromberg Prod., a post he held for the past three years, to re-enter banking in the East. He was president of General Service Studios for seven years before the war.

$150,000 for 'Henry'

Some 70 summer resort bookings of "Henry V," which began in July and end on Labor Day, will gross approximately $150,000, United Artists reports.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN
CLARK GABLE · DEBORAH KERR
in M-G-M's 'The HUCKSTERS'
IN PERSON
MAX BAER and SLAPSIE MAXIE ROSENBLOOM
Sammy Fidler and Orch.
Plus OTHERS

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
in Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

BETTY GRABLE . DAN DAILEY
"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE
JACK HALEY . ELLA LOGAN
Extra: JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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'Reverse English' in Booking Theatres

New Haven, Aug. 28.—The Amalgamated Buying Service will enlist the support of various film branch offices in New Haven for an all-out drive to book theatres in September.

Previously, Bernard Levi, Amalgamated spokesman, [illegible] the companies have been helped by Amalgamated in booking pictures into theatres which it handles. Now, the companies will help Amalgamated, said Levi.

McNeil Will Retire From Golden State

San Francisco, Aug. 28.—R. A. McNeil who has sold his interest along with Eugene Emmick in Golden State Theatres to their partner, Michael Naify, is expected to retire from the company about Jan. 1. Thereafter, he will devote his time to other activities of which he has many, including the Excelsior Amusement Co. McNeil and Emmick jointly own Excelsior, which operates six large neighborhood houses in San Francisco. These are the Granada, Amazon, Irving, Noe, Verdi and Parkside.

The Bank of America is understood to be behind Naify in the financing required to complete the Golden State deal, involving $10,000,000. McNeil's share is reported to be in the neighborhood of $4,000,000.

Five Are Promoted In RKO Sales Staff

Herman Silverman has been advanced from office manager at RKO Radio's New York exchange to assistant to Metropolitan district manager Len Gruenberg. He has been with the organization since 1925. In announcing the promotion, Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution vice-president also revealed that William Hartman, former booker, will replace Silverman as office manager. He has been with the company since 1929.

In Charlotte, three new promotions have been announced by RKO branch manager R. F. Branon. Jules Williamson has been advanced from office manager to salesman, Clay Jessup from head booker to office manager and Jack Webb from booker to head booker.

Fox Circuit Meeting

Salt Lake City, Aug. 28.—Hall Baetz, Fox-Intermountain district manager, has called managers of theatres in his district to meet Sept 3 and 4 in Idaho Falls. Rick Ricketsen, Fox-Intermountain president, will discuss sales and company problems with managers from Montana, Utah and Idaho.

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
304 East 44th St., N. Y. 19 MU 7-6970
Complete Film and
Disc Recording Facilities

Reviews

"Out of the Blue"

(Eagle-Lion)

THAT title strikes the reviewer as being about as meaningful as letters on an index card, serving only reference purposes. Otherwise, "Out of the Blue," so-called, presumably, because there is an insignificant song of the same name in the picture, rates kind words. It is bright and broad comedy with tongue-in-cheekers George Brent, Virginia Mayo, Turhan Bey, Ann Dvorak and Carole Landis romping through one purposely preposterous situation after another.

The farcical affair has Miss Dvorak on a steady diet of brandy, playing a comic lush with surprisingly amusing effect. Brent, slave to his wife, Miss Landis, gets innocently playful when she goes off on a weekend, brings Miss Dvorak to his Greenwich Village apartment where she promptly passes out. He thinks she is dead and places her on neighbor's Bey's terrace.

Bey, Bohemian-type artist, whose choicest subject is Miss Mayo, finds the body alive, pretends it isn't, accuses Brent of murder, protests: "Is that your idea of a good Christian burial?" Bey continues the gag by substituting a mannequin for the "body," has Brent handle the interment spade work.

It goes on from there with a wide assortment of comedy devices, some old some new, all good. There is hardly a story at all but as unadulterated "escapist" fare, "Out of the Blue" is definitely worthwhile.

Walter Bullock, Vera Caspary and Edward Eliscu did the screenplay, from an original by Miss Caspary. Isadore G. Goldsmith produced, under the supervision of Bryan Foy. Others in the cast include: Hadda Brooks, Alton E. Horton, Charlie Smith, Julia Dean, Elizabeth Patterson and Richard Lane.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

Gene Arneel

"Joe Palooka in the Knockout"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Aug. 28

THIS third film in the Joe Palooka series has high entertainment value and was given careful production. Outstanding in the latter category is its cast of 25 players, all able, and most of them contributing to the advancement of a story which deals more with the solving of a murder mystery than it does with cauliflower ears and flailing fists. There are but two fight scenes in the film, one a brief one at the start and the other a well-staged battle to bring an exciting climax to the story.

Handsome, husky young Joe Kirkwood grows better with each enactment of the Palooka role, while a seasoned stager like Leon Errol, portraying Palooka's manager, Knobby, could hardly improve on his performance. Morris Carnovsky, as the silky, villainous "brains" of a fight-fixing ring; his henchman, Marc Lawrence, Elyse Knox as Joe's sweetheart, Anne; Billy House, Benny Baker, Donald MacBride, Whitford Kane and Trudy Marshall handle the main support parts in sure and splendid manner. Others making the most of plump bit roles include Vince Barnett, Sarah Padden, Chester Clute, Clarence Muse, Eddie Gribbon and Danny Morton.

Palooka threatens to give up fighting and his championship when he believes himself responsible for the death of a contender whom he knocks out. The fiancee of the dead fighter suspects that he died from the effects of a drug mysteriously fed to him by gamblers who make a rich betting coup when the fighter loses.

Palooka, Knobby and the police unite in revealing the fight-fixing ring as responsible for the boxer's death, as well as nearly murdering Joe by the same means—a poisoned mouthpiece—on the night of his big championship bout. For the surprising fine quality of this series picture, based on the famous cartoon strip, producer Hal E. Chester and Reginald Le Borg, the director, rate critical kudos. The screenplay is an original by Nedrich Young.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W. J. McGrath

SOPEG, SPG Meet To Combat Layoffs

Recommendations for action to be taken by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and the Screen Publicists Guild in the face of recent home office "economy lay-offs" in the industry were adopted by the memberships of the two unions at a joint meeting here last night. The specific line of action to be pursued will be disclosed at a joint press conference to be held next week.

The proposals were draw up by a SOPEG-SPG "strategy" committee.

Kodak Appoints Staud

Rochester, N. Y., Aug. 28.—Eastman Kodak announces the appointment of Dr. Cyril J. Staud as director of the Kodak research laboratory. Dr. John A. Leermakers was named assistant director. Dr. Staud joined Kodak in 1924, and Dr. Leermakers in 1934.

Black Gold Indians Hosts to Press Here

Some 15 braves and squaws, members of the Black Gold Indians, were hosts to the press at an Allied Artists luncheon yesterday on the Roof Garden of Macy's. The Indians are here in connection with the opening of Allied's "Black Gold" at Loew's State Theatre on September 4. Among those present were Ernest Emerling, Loew's Theatres advertising director, Eddie Dowden, Loew publicity executive, and Arnold Stoltz and Madeleine White, both of Monogram-A.A.

Fire Film for Theatres

To combat the rising wave of fires, an 11-minute public-service film, "Crimes of Carelessness," will be offered to exhibitors in key areas this fall by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. It was produced by Audio Productions. Distribution is being handled by Modern Talking Picture Service.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

MOBILIZATION of the nation's theatres, press, radio and advertising facilities is reported by the American Heritage Foundation to have been completed for The Freedom Train exhibit which will leave Philadelphia on Sept. 17 for the longest train tour in U. S. history—33,000 miles—to raise the level of American citizenship.

The train will carry over 100 of the country's most priceless historic documents, the foundations of American liberty, such as the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, the U. S. Constitution.

The documents will be protected from fire by one of the first carbon-dioxide custom-built extinguishing systems to be installed anywhere. Advance information discloses that each of the priceless relics of American tradition will be placed between plastic sheets, one-half inch thick, and anchored by bolts inside specially-designed steel cases, covered with shatterproof double glass sheets. The plastic would require a 100-lb ball traveling 50 miles an hour to pierce it. There will be no windows in the exhibit cars; they will be covered inside and out with steel plates. Twenty-four armed Marines will guard the exhibit.

▽

Television in taverns is now on a roadshow basis.

RKO television chief Ralph Austrian reports that when a very special event, such as a championship bout is being telecast, the price of drinks is raised to "roadshow" levels—10-cent beers bring a quarter, a 75-cent Scotch-and-soda gets a dollar, and so on up.

▽

Frankest gents of the time are Leonard Levinson and David Flexer, who have become film producers in California and insist upon operating under the banner of Impossible Pictures!

▽

During matinees at Century Circuit theatres here, a special trailer is screened asking women in the audience if they have forgotten to buy anything for dinner that evening. They are then advised that an attendant at the rear of the house will make their purchase for them, and hold it until the show breaks. A three-minute intermission follows during which patrons can make their shopping wants known.

▽

Pending in Federal Court in Omaha is a suit brought by the Poppers Supply Co., purveyors of popcorn to theatres, against the Nebraska Seed Co., charging that popcorn supplied by the defendant was not "super-hybrid South American popcorn". South American popcorn in the corn-belt!

▽

Not finding any cash in the Victor Theatre, at Columbus, O., burglars scattered potato chips, candy bars and chewing gum over the floor, and unrolled ticket rolls all over the place.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Several Loop theatres soared high with good grosses this week. Outstanding among the top-runners were "Life with Father" and "The Trouble with Women." Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 25:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $16,000)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,500)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) (95c). Gross: $63,000. (Average: $30,000)
MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $26,000)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—ORIENTAL (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Marie McDonald and Clark Dennis. Gross: $45,000 (Average: $40,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,500)
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $37,000. (Average: $17,500)
THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Olga San Juan, The Charioteers and Gil Lamb. Gross: $68,000. (Average: $59,000)
THE UNFAITHFUL (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $12,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Life with Father" more than doubled the box-office average of the Boyd Theatre. Others registering well are "Welcome Stranger" and "Mother Wore Tights." Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 26-28:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,500)
CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $27,000)
CRY WOLF (WB)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,200)
THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $9,800. (Average: $12,700)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5th week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $24,000)
FIESTA (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,600)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6th week. Gross: $17,900. (Average: $31,700)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $48,200. (Average: $21,000)
MORE WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000)
MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES (M-G-M)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $13,800)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $38,800. (Average: $29,500)

ST. LOUIS

With a Van Johnson personal appearance and "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" leading, business was the best in months despite a heat wave. Estimated gross receipts for the week ended Aug. 27:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $2,OOO. (Average: $16,500)
CRY WOLF (WB) and THE WEB (U-I)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)
FRANKENSTEIN (U-I reissue) and DRACULA (U-I reissue)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,250)
THE OTHER LOVE (UA) and KEEPER OF THE BEES (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.) and THREE ON A TICKET (E-L) — ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)
ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M) and BLIND SPOT (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c) with a one-day Van Johnson personal appearance. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,500)
WILD HARVEST (Para.) and PHILO VANCE'S SECRET MISSION (E-L)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

Business was mixed. "Welcome Stranger" is still running strong in its sixth week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Aug. 28:

ANGEL AND THE BADMAN (Rep.)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500)
THE CORSICAN BROTHERS (E-L reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,400)
CRY WOLF (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500)
NEW ORLEANS (UA)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,300)
POSSESSED (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)
ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 6th week on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,600)

House To Investigate McCann-PadwayRow

WASHINGTON, Aug. 28.—Chairman Hartley of the House Labor Committee has called for a complete report on the fight between Irving McCann, counsel of the subcommittee investigating the Hollywood studio strike, and AFL counsel Joseph A. Padway during a hearing of the House group at Los Angeles on Aug. 19.

The report has been requested from Representative Kearns, chairman of the subcommittee. "What action is taken," Hartley said, "will depend on a thorough investigation of the circumstances." AFL president William Green and other top Federation officials have called for McCann's dismissal.

Talley in New Post

CHARLOTTE, Aug. 28. — Bill Talley of Kay Film Exchanges, Atlanta, has arrived here to take over the managership of the local Kay exchange. Talley was office manager of the Monogram exchanges here six years ago. Since then he has been with Kay in Atlanta. He replaces Ed Heller, who died two weeks ago.

Rosen in Old Post

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 28.—Eph Rosen has returned to M-G-M here as assistant branch manager, after pinch-hitting at the Milwaukee exchange for nearly five months, substituting for branch manager John Kemptgen, who has been recovering from a long illness. W. H. (Bob) Workman is M-G-M branch manager here.

Gov. Warren Appeals To Snyder on Tax

Sacramento, Cal., Aug. 28.—Gov. Warren, advised that the British 75 per cent tax on American film imports is "discriminatory and confiscatory," has appealed to Secretary of the Treasury Snyder "as the American representative at the forthcoming negotiations between the British government and our own to take necessary steps to bring about an agreement which will not be discriminatory toward our motion picture industry."

In a telegram to Snyder, Warren said the British action is a "tremendous blow to the motion picture industry of this state."

UK Expects Imports

(*Continued from page* 1)

lieve such a plan will emerge in World Bank discussions next month either in connection with Britain's overall economic position or specifically on film imports.

General informed comment on the government's economic plan runs in this vein: "It is an impossibility to meet the gap by British unilateral action. The whole problem can only be solved on a world basis," and confirms the expectation of a plan on imports.

Exhibitor opinion now reveals a growing belief that British audiences' preference for American films will be dissipated if a flow of films is not maintained. Exhibitors therefore urge the necessity of combined industry propaganda in the interest of both American production and British exhibitors before time runs out and there is a judgment by default. However, presumably in the belief that the ultimate solution of the deadlock will come through government action, there is no discernible evidence of the preparation of such propaganda.

Showmen's Star Poll

(*Continued from page* 1)

Tyler, Sid Caesar and Robert Sterling.

Results of a separate poll, also to be announced today by the *Herald*, find the motion picture critics giving honors to Billy De Wolfe as their No. 1 choice. Miss Keyes placed sixth in the critics' opinion.

Producer-IATSE 'Tie'

(*Continued from page* 1)

bor policy actually is dictated from New York, with local studio executives authorized to make some decisions but subject to New York approval.

Flaying IATSE for alleged refusal to permit local autonomy, Sorrell said IATSE appointed a "dictator" for Hollywood, and union personnel "stuck with him." He told the subcommittee that "Hollywood jurisdictional disputes can be settled and prevented only by legislation."

IATSE president Richard Walsh and international representative Roy Brewer, are expected to take the stand tomorrow, following completion of Sorrell's testimony.

Hearings will continue Saturday and Tuesday.

Intensive Promotion Is Needed: Sherman

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—There is nothing wrong in the immediate future of the motion picture industry that sustained high entertainment quality, combined with intensified sales and exploitation methods will not cure, according to producer Harry Sherman.

Sherman feels that the recent British 75 per cent tax can be more than offset right in our own domestic market if we get out and sell our product.

"We may be the most film-conscious nation on earth," Sherman says, "but there are still millions of Americans who never see a film and millions more who see them only at long intervals. These people constitute the margin between meeting costs and making a good profit. Although the British action will restrict a picture's grosses in the present global set-up, we can more than make it up right here at home without ever shipping a film outside the Continental U. S."

Sherman plans to send men into the field to contact church and other groups in connection with the release of "Carmen of the West", his projected independent venture which he will make after completing his 1948 Enterprise commitments.

'IA' Files Against British Import Tax

HOLLYWOOD, Aug. 28.—IATSE studio locals have wired protests to Secretary of the Treasury Snyder and Secretary of State Marshall against Britain's new *ad valorem* tax on film imports.

"We feel this prohibitive tax has been levied to improve Britain's bargaining position with the U. S. in the forthcoming financial discussions," the "IA" wire stated, adding: "If the tax remains it will be ruinous to the industry."

U. S. to Defer

(*Continued from page* 1)

points looking to ground for eventual agreement on a compromise for the Dalton tax.

Both MPA and the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers have formally charged in representations given to the government that the British tax is a violation of the Loan Agreement with Britain, the Anglo-U. S. reciprocal trade treaty and the Anglo-U. S. double taxation treaty.

In London, it has been unofficially suggested that an area of negotiation of a settlement of the film tax and the resultant embargo on shipments of American films to Britain may be found in a formula which would involve the freezing of some large proportion of American film earnings in Britain and the retention here of dollar earnings of British films in the United States.

Trade and government officials have declined to comment on the suggestion.

Polio Hits Theatres

BOISE, Ida., Aug. 28.—A polio epidemic is depressing theatre grosses in this area, according to several managers. Caldwell and Nampa are particularly hard hit. Boise houses are also reported feeling effects of the disease epidemic.

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im Dividends Jp 42%, Says ederal Report

sserts Rise Was Part f an "Upward Trend"

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1. — Divi-nd payments reported by motion cture companies for July were 42 r cent above the figure in July 46, according to the U. S. Com-erce Department. They totaled ,521,000, compared with $3,-2,000 last year.

Commerce officials said the same companies were covered in both months, and that the increase was part of the "upward trend of business generally."

Dividend payments for the three onths ended in July, 1947, totaled 2,676,000, a 29 per cent increase er the $9,826,000 reported in the me period in 1946.

ank Dollar Permit ejected by Bank

LONDON, Sept. 1.—The Bank of ngland has refused J. Arthur Rank dollar expenditure permit for the rchase of American color stock for e production of his "Blue Lagoon," that bank's first known turn-down a permit to Rank.

(*Editor's Note: Less than* $12,000 *as involved in the expenditure, for hich multi-millionaire J. Arthur ank sought a permit from the Bank England.*)

"Blue Lagoon," which was to be lmed on the Fiji Islands, under rank Lauder's direction, and starring ean Simmons, was intended to be the ggest production on Rank's current hedule. Its production has been

(*Continued on page 7*)

)perators' Strike ostponed by 'IA'

Strike action by IATSE Local No. 06, New York City projectionists, gainst major theatre circuits, has een postponed following substantial rogress in contract negotiations. greement with the company to con-nue wage increase talks several eeks longer, if necessary, representa-

(*Continued on page 6*)

State Governments Get 14 Millions In Admission Tax

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—State Governments took in $14,216,000 from taxes on admission in the fiscal year ending on June 30, 1947, according to preliminary U. S. Census Bureau estimates. This was a sharp increase over previous years.

The Bureau said 28 states had admission taxes during the last fiscal year. In 1945 and 1946, when 27 states had such taxes, collections were $10,332,000 and $12,384,000, respectively.

State collections from licenses on amusement places during fiscal 1947 dropped from the 1946 figure. They totaled $4,010,000 in the 12-month period just ended, compared with $4,201,000 in 1946.

E-L Appoints McCoy To Southeastern Post

Ralph L. McCoy has been appointed Eagle-Lion district manager for the Southeastern district, comprising territories served by the Atlanta, Charlotte and Memphis exchanges, by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. McCoy was for many years Warner district manager in the territory.

Branch managers named for the Southeastern district are: Grover Parsons, Atlanta; Harold Keeter, Charlotte; Leonard Shea, Memphis.

Ascap Would Revise Unjust Fees: Cohen

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will make remedial adjustments in its increased rate scale for any exhibitor who gives evidence that the new music performing rights costs are inequitable or impose a hardship, according to I. T. Cohen, the society's Eastern division manager.

The licensing executive stressed that Ascap officials would accept any invitation to discussions of its new program with any theatre licensee, whether an individual or spokesman for a group, but they would not initiate meetings.

Taft Law Delays Colosseum Hearings

Any action in the petition of the Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America to be designated as bargaining agent by the National Labor Relations Board is unlikely until provisions of the Taft-Hartley law have been complied with.

The Colosseum had requested certification on a national basis, and hearings had been expected to be initiated here. Meanwhile, the United Office and Professional Workers of America had intervened, seeking certification on a regional basis here.

Reveal Allied Took Stand On Ticket Tax Last June

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1. — A statement by Allied States Association, calling for immediate ending of the war-time admission tax rate and early elimination of all admission taxes, was inserted into the record of the House Ways and Means Committee's excise tax hearings, it was revealed today.

Allied's stand has changed considerably since the letter was written early in June, and the association now calls for immediate removal of the entire 20 per cent tax. However, until the hearings were made public today, it had been assumed that Allied had not taken any stand during the hearings last session, when representatives of the American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America did testify before the committee. Allied's stand was made in a letter to Congressman Grant, over the

(*Continued on page 7*)

50 Mexican Features Remain 'On the Shelf'

Mexico City, Sept. 1.—Some 50 feature pictures, presumably all Mexican-made, and produced between 1938 and 1946, are frozen "on the shelves" of companies here, posing a keen problem for the Mexican industry.

Inferior exploitation, lacking interest to exhibitors, is cited as the principal reason for so much money being so tied up, with diminishing hope of retrieving all or even an important part of it, because most of the films are outmoded.

Ascap Offers To Extend Pacts 60 Days

Many Exhibitors Accept; MPTOA Consults Mills

Exhibitors throughout the country are being advised by theatre organizations to take advantage promptly of an offer by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, which accompanies notices to exhibitors of the proposed theatre music tax increases, to issue temporary licenses to theatres at existing rates for 60-day periods after the expiration of present licenses, beginning Oct. 1.

The 60 days of grace thus obtained will be utilized, exhibitors are assured by theatre organizations, in perfecting campaigns to forestall or modify the proposed music tax increase.

An Ascap official reported at the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Canada's Music Fees 'Frozen' Until Dec.

TORONTO, Sept. 1.—The Composers, Authors and Publishers Association of Canada cannot immediately adopt a new and higher schedule of performing right fees for theatres in the Dominion as ASCAP has done in the United States because all such license charges must first be approved by the Canadian government. Theatre music performing fees scaling up to 15 cents

(*Continued on page 7*)

Yates Admits Offer To Buy Out Goetz

Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, admitted at the weekend that he had made an offer to purchase stock holdings of Harry Goetz in the company. Yates added that talks on the matter have proceeded, but that

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

"Gas House Kids in Hollywood" and "Marshal of Cripple Creek" are reviewed on page 6.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, returned here over the weekend from a Western trip.

•

GEORGE GENERALIS and RICHARD DUBE, of the 20th Century-Fox publicity staff, left at the weekend for San Francisco where they will assist ED YARBROUGH, Western division exploitation, on campaign plans for "Forever Amber."

•

CHRISTINE KIRK, secretary in the office of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Indianapolis, has resigned to accompany her husband, ALAN C. WOOD, to Louisville, Ky., where he is a high school athletic director.

•

BEN WERTHEIM, of the 20th Century-Fox pressbook department, is the father of a baby girl born to MRS. WERTHEIM at the Margaret Hague Maternity Hospital in Jersey City.

•

WALTER HOFFMAN, Minneapolis field exploiteer for 20th Century-Fox, was married in Minneapolis to MARILYN GOLDSTEIN of that city. They will honeymoon in New York.

•

JOHN FARROW, Paramount director, and his production crew are in town from the Coast en route to West Point, N. Y., for location shooting.

•

HENRY GLOVER, New Orleans branch manager for Monogram, JOE FAHRBACKER and SAM NUNGESSER have returned there from Atlanta.

•

ERNIE GRECULA, advertising-publicity director for Hartford Theatres Circuit, and his family are back in Hartford from a Maine vacation.

•

THOMAS A. RYAN, manager of the Chicago office of Group Service Agency, is in San Francisco after a visit to the Los Angeles office.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, returns to his desk today after a two-week trip to the West Coast.

•

STEVE BROIDY, president of Allied Artists, and NORTON V. RITCHEY, president of Monogram International, are in Rome.

•

HAL WALLIS and his wife LOUISE FAZENDA, arrived here yesterday from London on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

J. J. COHN, M-G-M studio executive, and MRS. COHN are due here from the Coast on Sept. 15.

•

OSCAR PERRIN, manager of the Ritz Theatre, Albany, N. Y., is vacationing in Boston and New York.

•

RAYMOND EDWARDS and BOB CANNON, Lake City, Fla., exhibitors, were in Atlanta recently.

•

CECIL B. DEMILLE will leave Hollywood Sept. 26 for a two-month tour of the country.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ERIC JOHNSTON recently reduced the British film tax to the effective common denominator of an attempt "to get a dollar's worth of film for a quarter."

Now an unidentified British Treasury official is reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY's London bureau as suggesting that a "point of negotiation (on a compromise of the film tax) would be the development of some form of Anglo-American trading arrangement which would be confined exclusively to motion pictures," due to the fact that Britain considers itself forced to pay for American imports "primarily" with British exports.

Translated into trade terms, that would mean that the approximately 30 pictures produced in Britain annually which would be suitable for the American market would be exchanged for the approximately 300 pictures produced here and suitable for British first runs.

Further translated, what the unidentified British Treasury official appears to be proposing is that we give Britain a dollar's worth of film for 10 cents, not a quarter.

It would seem to contemplate, in other words, the retention in Britain of the earnings of American films there and the retention in the United States of the earnings of British films here. Except that the wording as reported was that Britain must pay for its imports "primarily" with exports.

Liberally interpreted, that might mean the freeing of some minor percentage of British earnings of American films.

• •

A New York exhibitor points out in a letter to this department that Loew's, Warners and Paramount, through their music publishing subsidiaries which are members of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, could, if they were so inclined, register a protest against Ascap's proposed 300 to 500 per cent increases in theatre music license fees which could not be ignored.

The writer points out that a 1,500-seat theatre charging 60 cents, which now pays Ascap $225, will be required to pay a music tax of $900 under the new levy, or an increase of $675.

Loew's owns the Robbins, Feist and Miller music publishing companies; Warners, the Harms, Witmark, Remick and Advance companies; Paramount, the Paramount and Famous.

Solely for the sake of illustration, an unofficial estimate that Warners' music interests represent 30 per cent of Ascap's publisher category will be accepted. Assume then the rate increase example cited above is applied to a Warner theatre. It will work out as follows:

One-fourth of the $675 increase paid by the Warner theatre would be retained by Ascap, under its fiscal plan, for operating costs of the Society. Ten per cent of the remaining $506 goes to the foreign society with which Ascap exchanges licenses. The balance, about $450, is split 50-50 between Ascap's publisher members, on the one hand, and the authors-composers membership, on the other, each category getting $225. The Warner companies' share of the publishers' $225 would be $67.50.

•

Thus, in order to produce a $67.50 increase for Warner music subsidiaries, a Warner theatre will shell out $607.50 to Ascap.

On the simple arithmetic of the thing, there is no apparent reason for believing that the Ascap rate increase is any more palatable to a motion picture company, owning and operating theatres, whose music subsidiaries will share in the revenues from the increased rates, than it is to the average independent exhibitor.

That being the case, it is to be hoped that those companies having voices and influence within Ascap, the companies being Loew's, Paramount and Warners, have registered their opposition to this wholly unwise move of Ascap's or, if they have not done so already, will make known their opposition before it is too late.

The exhibitors' diversified efforts in opposition to Ascap, one observer remarked recently, put him in mind of the man who goes bear hunting with birdshot.

The Federal Copyright laws being what they are, litigation against Ascap is unlikely to serve any more useful purpose than keeping a number of attorneys off relief rolls.

Now that Ascap has trebled its rates, what is there to prevent it from trebling them again later on?

Newsreel Parade

THE American Legion conventio in New York takes the spotligh in current newsreel issues. A new ai speed record, sports and human interest items round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 1—America Legion convention in New York City. Marine flier pilots jet plane at record 650 mile per hour. Carnival on ice. Sports: Tennis speedboat regatta, auto speed trials.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 303—[illegible]ican Legion rally. Auto speed tests. World's fastest plane. Icecapades.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 2—Icecapade of 1948. High speed auto racing. Nav plane streaks at 650 miles per hour. Fait healers protest jailing. New York welcome Legion.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 69—American Legion convention. World ai record set. Baby seals rescued. Icecapades

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 4—American Legion captures New York. Plan hits new speed record. Man, 79, builds ow home in 6 weeks. Naval academy plan fo West Coast. Tennis. 1948 icecapades.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

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ROBERT YOUNG · ROBERT MITCHUM · ROBERT RYAN
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CLARK GABLE · DEBORAH KERR
in M-G-M's 'The HUCKSTERS'
IN PERSON
MAX BAER and SLAPSIE MAXIE ROSENBLOOM
Sammy Fidler and Orch.
Plus OTHERS

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATU NIGHTLY

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perling Predicts Iealthy Changes'

Some healthy changes may develop Hollywood as a result of the forn tax situation, Milton Sperling, sident of United States Pictures, l in an interview here at the week-l. For one thing, he observed, "it a most dramatic way of bringing ne the fact that boom days and om spending are over," and as a ret, the industry may develop sounder ions at home.

a don't have to spend a lot of ney to make a hit," he said, adding t the story is the thing, and if it is ong, people will see it. Ways sugted for eliminating waste without rifice to quality, are quicker protion schedules, the avoidance of cessive retakes, and giving new yers an opportunity. Future prod-, he predicted, will include fewer sicals and costume dramas because y cost too much, but will include v formulas and more original story tter.

Sperling was gloomy about the itish situation, but he feels that ne modifications will be made, but to any great degree. The situan, he asserted, is especially tough independents and will discourage rcentage deals.

Discussing the five-year "peace" reement which Mayor O'Dwyer has ned with 12 film unions, Sperling d he doubted it would bring about y substantial transference of proction from Hollywood to New rk. "It may make it more contable to shoot sequences in New rk, but you cannot duplicate the hnical facilities of Hollywood witht the investment of a billion dols," he pointed out.

Sperling, who flew back to the ast over the weekend, said producn plans of his company for the ming year call for four high-budget ctures, double this year's. On the hedule are "Distant Drums," ream Street," "Dear Teacher" d "To the End of the Earth," ch set to cost $1,800,000, he said.

A Names MacKaig, toller to New Posts

Kenneth R. MacKaig, former salesan in the Los Angeles branch, has en appointed branch manager of nited Artists' Denver exchange, the A home office here reports.

E. J. Stoller, who had been salesan in the Minneapolis branch, has en promoted to branch manager.

orthern Is Named gent for Altec

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 1.—Northern ectric Co., Ltd., has been made exusive agent for the manufacture and le or lease in Canada and Newundland of all Altec Lansing prodts, it was announced here by G. Carrington, Altec Lansing presint.

arris Leaves MPA

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Joel Far-, head of the 16mm. division of e Motion Picture Association for e past year, will leave this week to ter private business in Spokane.

tart Paramount Drive

Paramount's 1947 sales drive opened Sunday. It will end on Nov. 29.

1945 Strike Was to Oust IATSE: Walsh

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 1.—Labelling the outbreak of studio strife in 1945 over the set dressers' jurisdiction as "merely an excuse," Richard Walsh, president of IATSE, told the House Labor subcommittee here that the 1945 strike actually was a "fight to drive IATSE out of the studios."

Of the present strike, Walsh said that "when the producers notified us there were no further contracts governing certain work, we put men in jobs, ordering them to perform any type of work in order to protect IATSE jobs. We must have done a pretty good job, as the studios are still open after 11 months."

Earlier, Herbert Sorrell, head of the Conference of Studio Unions, testified that he had been offered $56,000 "in dollars, nickels or dimes any way you want it," by an unnamed producer, after Pat Casey [veteran studio labor negotiator], had been sent from the room, following renegotiation of a contract several years ago. The contract, he said, gave a 15 per cent increase to workers who had asked 20 per cent. Sorrell said he refused the money and reported the offer to the union membership.

Queried again by the subcommittee on legislation, he said the studio situation requires three measures: jail sentences for employers who hire police protection from anything but property damage; criminal prosecution for union leaders who sell out their memberships for pay-offs; and jail for employers and union leaders who conspire against the interests of labor.

The hearing continued Saturday with Walsh and IATSE international representative Roy M. Brewer, and will be resumed tomorrow.

Seven More Pictures Are Rated by Legion

Rated by the National Legion of Decency last week in class A-I are: "Mother Wore Tights," 20th Century-Fox; "Robin Hood of Texas," Republic; "White Stallion," Astor Pictures. In class A-II are: "Adventure Island," Paramount; "Blackmail," Republic; "Body and Soul," United Artists; "Deep Valley," Warners.

Youngsters Ask End Of Sex in Films

Atlanta, Sept. 1. — Atlanta and Fulton County high school students, 80 per cent of whom attend films at least once a week, prefer musicals to all other types, and would eliminate all sex and drinking if they were producers. This in substance is the result of a survey made by the "Y" Clubs here.

The old-time Western serial is on the toboggan while the favorite presentations of the past 12 months included "The Jolson Story," with twice as many votes as "The Yearling," which placed second, followed by "The Outlaw," "The Song of the South," "Best Years of Our Lives," and "Till the Clouds Roll By," in that order.

Extra Shows for The Legionnaires

The majority of New York's downtown first-runs offered extra performances yesterday to accommodate the thousands of American Legionnaires lingering here after their convention. Stage show theatres gave six complete performances while the grind houses held to their usual lengthy schedules.

Nine New Theatres Approved by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—A theatre slated for Van Dyke, Mich., at a cost of $150,000, leads the list of nine more theatres approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter. It will be built by William J. Schulte.

Second largest project on the list, for $93,340, was approved for Lyric Theatres, Inc., Lexington, Ky. Total approvals were $379,380; the total for denials of 28 theatre projects was $1,261,939.

Since July 1, when the new rent law went into effect, OHE has approved 117 theatres at a total cost of $3,235,683, and denied 258 projects at a cost of $11,188,226.

Church Group Says No 'Picture-of-Month'

For the first time in the history of its reviewing service, the Protestant Motion Picture Council, cooperating with the Protestant Film Commission, has decided that no picture "adequately meets the Council's standards for the designation of "picture-of-the-month." The lack of any suitable picture is considered by the Council to be "an indictment of current movies and a challenge to movie-makers."

Meanwhile, praising the execution of "Black Narcissus" and "Life With Father," the Council felt that both pictures contained "grave distortions" of religious life. The defeat of the missionary sisters in "Black Narcissus" is "far from being in accordance with the record of Christian missionary perserverance," says the Council. The use of "so serious a matter as baptism" as a major comic theme in "Life With Father" was also deplored.

"The picture-of-the-month must not violate taboos common both to the Christian conscience and (industry's) Motion Picture Code," the Council explained.

Four Appointed by Foreign Screen Corp.

Frank Ortega, Jr. has been named Latin American field supervisor for Foreign Service Corp. and Carolos Jimenez has been appointed Argentine branch manager, with headquarters in Buenos Aires, H. Alban-Mestanza, Foreign Screen president, announces. In addition, Gilda Bueno has been named home office assistant export manager and Rosemarie Iappolo to take charge of prints and accessories.

At the same time, Mestanza discloses acquisition of Latin American rights to "Talk About Jacqueline," produced by M-G-M, Ltd., in London, and "Boccaccio," produced by Venus Films, Rome.

Century Circuit Sets Showmanship Meet

Century Circuit's first showmanship convention will be held here on Tuesday, Sept. 30, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, it was announced by J. R. Springer, general manager. Attending will be all home office officials, district managers and theatre managers.

Theme of the all-day session is "Back to Showmanship," with emphasis on the necessity for all Century personnel to become actively aware that the "gravy business" of the war years, when anything went, is over, and that only real showmanship effort will enable the company to counteract any falling market.

The convention will be opened by vice-president Fred J. Schwartz, who will be followed by Springer, comptroller Martin H. Newman, extra profits division head Leslie R. Schwartz, film department chief Sam Goodman, director of purchasing and maintenance Leonard Satz, Robert Ulman, personnel director, and advertising-publicity chief Edward Schreiber.

Each executive will discuss that phase of showmanship with which he is most directly concerned, and later will answer questions from the floor pertaining to his talk.

District managers Leonard Freund, Emanuel Friedman, Jack La Reaux, Jack Weinstein and William Applegate will serve as discussion moderators. Top industry figures also have been invited to speak.

AMPA Salutes 16mm. Industry on Sept. 17

The 16mm. film industry and its leaders will be saluted by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers on the association's opening program of 1947-48 at a luncheon here on Sept. 17 at the Town Hall Club. Arnold Stoltz is AMPA president. Dave Bader, a past president of AMPA, has been named to head the arrangements committee, and will be aided by Phil Williams, AMPA vice-president, in lining up leaders of this field to participate in the program.

Bergman to Talk

Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director for Universal-International, will address the managers of Schine Chain Theatres at their regional meeting at the Hotel Syracuse in Syracuse tomorrow. Bergman will discuss the necessity for maintaining a balance between ballyhoo and public relations in the industry.

To Move SEC to D. C.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1. — President Truman has approved plans to return the Securities and Exchange Commission here from Philadelphia, it has been announced. It was stated that space might be made available as "early as December." The SEC moved to Philadelphia in 1942.

Schwartz in New Post

Herbert A. Schwartz Jr., formerly with M-G-M's Culver City, Cal., studios, has been named national public relations director of United World Federalists, Inc., according to Cord Meyer Jr., president of the organization.

"THIS KISS

"POUNDS AT YOUR SOLAR PLEXUS UNTIL YOU CAN SCARCELY BREATHE!"

—*PM*

"TENSION THAT BECOMES ALMOST UNBEARABLE!"

—*N. Y. Journal-American*

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—*N. Y. Post*

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—*N. Y. World-Telegram*

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—*N. Y. Herald Tribune*

"KISS OF DEATH" Starring VICTOR MATURE, BRIAN DONLEVY, COLEEN GRAY with Richard Wi
Directed by HENRY HATHAWAY · Produced by FRED KOHLMAR · Screen Play by Ben Hecht and Ch

CAN'T MISS!"

—LEE MORTIMER, N. Y. Mirror

"KISS OF DEATH

Absolutely unbelieveable business! Don't know how we're getting them all in! We'll be playing it on Broadway for months to come!"

—HARRY BRANDT,
Brandt Theatres

Holmes, Howard Smith, Karl Malden
· Based on a Story by Eleazar Lipsky

20th
CENTURY-FOX

Hope to Avert a Mexican Shutdown

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 1. — The 10 American distributors and the distributors of Mexican pictures and foreign films, are more optimistic about averting the strike threatened against them on Sept. 8 by their employes who are members of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union. The employes are demanding, not the 50 wage increase that was originally announced, but raises of from 54 to 70 per cent.

The optimism stems from the conciliatory conversations which the distributors and their lawyers are having with NCIWU representatives at the Labor Ministry. Some distributors feel that the strike will be avoided by the laborites accepting an increase of perhaps 10 to 20 per cent. Other distributors, though, are not so hopeful. They point out that the employes ended a strike of several days in 1945 to enforce demands for a 50 per cent pay raise, by accepting increases of from 20 to 35 per cent.

The NCIWU and the major American distributors in a paid newspaper advertisement denied reports that the dispute has come to such a pass that the distributors are considering withdrawing from Mexico.

Postpone Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

tives of the local said, has cancelled a roll-call membership meeting scheduled for Manhattan Center, here.

Six-year agreements, including wage increases every two years already have been made with ITOA houses and theatres of the Joelson, Studio, Randforce and Skouras circuits. Involved in the current contract negotiations are RKO, Loew's, Warners, Paramount, Universal and Trans-Lux houses as well as the Roxy and Radio City Music Hall.

Herman Gelber is chairman of the Local No. 306 negotiating committee, and "IA" international vice-president James J. Brennan is representing International president Richard F. Walsh in the discussions.

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Reviews

"Gas House Kids in Hollywood"

(Eagle-Lion)

THE Gas House Kids swarm feverishly through an allegedly haunted house in "Gas House Kids in Hollywood," and a raucous parrot practically steals the show. The kids struggle with a stock plot, which strains for effect with every cliche in the haunted house category, clash with a dumb detective whose outworn type should annoy theatregoers, and, of course, wind up triumphant at the fadeout. Certain formula stories may have paid off in the past, but they can tap the cash register once too often, and the customers will suddenly demand fresher stuff.

The kids, Carl (Alfalfa) Switzer, Rudy Wissler, Benny Bartlett and Tommy Bond, go to Hollywood as delegates from a fan club, meet an eccentric professor, and spend a hectic few days at the professor's haunted home. A search for a hidden fortune in the house reveals a gang of crooks, headed by an actor, Michael Whalen, and a murdered real estate man. With the aid of the kids, the fortune is found and the crooks are brought to justice. Robert E. Kent did the original screenplay, and Edward Cahn directed.

Running time, 62½ minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

"Marshal of Cripple Creek"

(Republic)

STARTING off at a rapid gallop, the film keeps its pace throughout and throws in satisfying measures of gunplay and fisticuffs. Allan Lane is again cast as Red Ryder, with acting assists from Bobby Blake, Martha Wentworth and Trevor Bardette.

Cripple Creek, in Earle Snell's original screenplay, becomes a boom town when gold is discovered, with a consequent outbreak of lawlessness. As newly-appointed marshal, Ryder concentrates his efforts on uncovering a gang of gold ore hi-jackers who operate by tricking innocent victims into participating in the dirty work. Some standard Western complications develop before Ryder cleans up the town and gets things so peaceful that he starts pitching hay for excitement. Sidney Picker was associate producer and R. G. Springsteen was director.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 15.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Puerto Rico Receipts Up $100,000 in Year

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico, Sept. 1.—Admission taxes from all public shows here during the fiscal year 1946-47 yielded a total of $852,296, the Insular Treasury has reported. The previous year's collection was $753,030.

Collection of other taxes relating to the film business follow: cinematographic films imported in Puerto Rico during the fiscal year, $146,166, against $157,380 for the previous period; photographic and cinema cameras, $85,166, compared with $55,773.

American films imported by Puerto Rico are subject to a tax of two cents per lineal foot, while the admission tax at theatres here is 20 per cent of the value on admissions ranging from 10 cents to $1. Tickets costing less than 10 cents are subject to a 10 per cent tax.

RCA Develops New Television Antenna

A new single antenna capable of servicing television receivers in apartment houses and other multiple dwellings has been developed by RCA Victor, according to the engineering committee of the Television Broadcasters Association. The unit, which is claimed to be capable of solving a long-standing problem, is known as RCA Television-FM-AM-Antennaplex System.

Stations Meet Petrillo Sept. 8 on FM Ban

The four major radio networks will meet James Caesar Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians in Chicago on Sept. 8 for a discussion of his ban on duplication of standard musical broadcasts on frequency-modulation stations without payment to musicians by both outlets.

Eire Sees End of UK Crisis by June

DUBLIN, Sept. 1.—With at least nine months' product on hand and expectations of a settlement of the Anglo-American film tax problems within that time, Eire film circles are taking the current U. S.-British crisis calmly.

Since all American films exhibited in Eire are imported through London and all receipts are paid in sterling through Dublin branch offices to the London headquarters of the various major companies, this country has no direct contact, financially or otherwise, with the American trade.

The possibility of Ireland trading directly with Hollywood is at present remote since Ireland has a very small quota of dollars and depends upon the British Treasury for its extra allocations.

Pat Farrell, a leading independent exhibitor, believes direct importation from America could only take place if Ireland had dollars to pay. If American films do not come in, he observes, "we close down, or at least 80 per cent of us will."

Exhibitors express most concern at the moment with the increased entertainment tax and the resulting higher admission prices which became effective Aug. 15. Top price admissions increased from two shillings six pence to three shillings six pence, which is the new maximum in first run houses.

Protest Rail Restriction

ROME, Sept. 1.—Aroused over a Ministry of Transport order limiting railroad carriages to no more than 240 pounds of film on any train, Italian producers and distributors have asked the Government Ministry to revoke the order because it hinders the circulation of films.

French World Bank Loan Almost Spent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Indications of France's acute dollar shortage—always a bad signal for film makers—was given at the weekend by a World Bank announcement that France has spent all but $30,000,000 of the $250,000,000 World Bank loan granted less than four months ago.

It is considered likely here that France will apply for a second loan, and bank president John J. McClo said some time ago that the bank willing to consider another application later this year.

Yates Admits Offer

(*Continued from page* 1)

there had not been any conclusion. He added that negotiations are not in progress "at this time," but indicated that the negotiatons could be resumed at any time.

In other circles it is believed that the deal will in all likelihood be consummated.

Discussing reports that Yates might be contemplating sale of his own holdings, the Republic president said flatly that his holdings are not for sale "at any price."

Yates also denied reports that there had been unfriendly clashes between himself and Goetz. Referring to the sale negotiations, Yates said: "We've discussed it on very friendly terms."

Goetz, who attended a regular monthly board of directors meeting of Republic at the weekend, declined to comment on the purchase deal. His holdings in Republic are estimated at approximately 80,000 shares.

Meanwhile, the board of directors declared a regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents a share on preferred stock, payable Oct. 1 to stockholders of record on Sept. 10.

Variety Boys Club

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 1. — Variety Club has voted for the establishment of a boys club in East Los Angeles at a cost of $75,000 as its undertaking for the year, and set up a special performance of "Variety Girl" at the Downtown Paramount on Oct. 8 with a special stage show, as the kickoff of a fund-raising drive. The club also authorized its Heart Committee to complete arrangements with the Cedars of Hospital Lebanon for the construction of a long-planned $150,000 premature birth clinic.

Sherman Signs Peerce

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 1. — Producer Harry Sherman has signed Jan Peerce for a prominent role in "Carmen of the West."

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Advertisement

Hollywood

By W. J. McGRATH

Hollywood, Sept. 1

THE current controversy on more adequate compensation for American school teachers will be dramatized as Somerset Pictures' third film for Screen Guild release. . . . Warners announce "Four Wise Bachelors" as a new title for "Daddies", David Belasco [illegible]ay, which Alex Gottlieb is preparing [illegible] production. . . . King Brothers will reissue "When Strangers Marry", the film in which Robert Mitchum first won acclaim as an actor.

▽

Screen rights for the Norman Reilly Raine story, "The Streets of Laredo" have been purchased by Paramount. Endre Bohem has been assigned as producer. . . . Screen stars Randolph Scott and Dennis O'Keefe will co-produce and co-star in "Draw Sabres!", story of the Indian wars in America. Eagle-Lion will release. . . . Frank Capra has added a third chore to his double duties as producer-director on "State of the Union." He is collaborating with Myles Connolly and Anthony Veiller in writing the screen version of the Pulitzer Prize play. . . . Edward Donohue has been signed as associate producer on "The Velvet Touch," first picture for Independent Artists, Inc., which RKO Radio will produce. Rosalind Russell and Dudley Nichols head the IA company.

▽

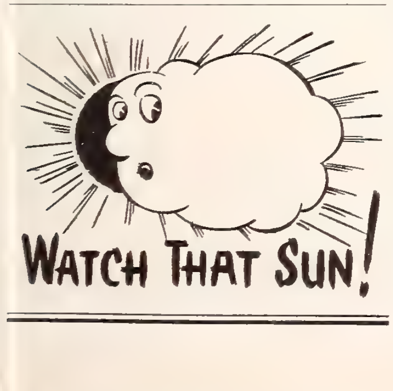
The third of four action musicals which Colbert Clark will produce for Columbia will be "Texas Sandman". . . . Leonard Goldstein has been set as producer, and George Sherman as director of "Tomahawk", recently purchased by Universal-International for production early next year. . . . George S. Kaufman, stage director and playwright, will remain in Hollywood until cutting is completed on U-I's "The Senator Was Indiscreet", his first film-directing effort. . . . Universal has engaged Karl Tunberg to produce their next Deanna Durbin film, "Up in Central Park". Tunberg scripted the screen version of the musical.

▽

The next Paramount starring film for Bob Hope will be "Sorrowful Jones," based on one of the horse race player characters created by the late Damon Runyon. Robert Welch will produce. . . . Warners has set Lew Ayres to co-star with Jane Wyman in "Johnny Belinda," which is on Jerry Wald's producing schedule.

▽

Universal-International has signed Fredric March and Florence Eldredge for the leads in the Lillian Hellman play, "Another Part of the Forest."


WATCH THAT SUN!

Ascap Offers

(*Continued from page* 1)

end of last week that applications for the new 60-day licenses at current rates already have been received from numerous theatre operators, including a blanket request for some 200 member theatres of Illinois Allied, which is headed by Jack Kirsch, national Allied president, and from circuits for their entire operations.

Tax Charge Not in Rates

Ascap, admitting that the response to its announced increase had been "tremendous," emphasized that Federal, state and local admission taxes are not included in its plan to tax on the basis of a capacity performance at the highest prevailing admission price at each theatre.

Thus, a 500-seat theatre charging 40 cents, of which seven cents is tax, would pay at the rate of 33 cents per seat, subject to a deduction of 15 per cent if the theatre gives less than 100 and more than 70 shows per month, and a deduction of 30 per cent if it has less than 70 shows per month. Theatres having over 100 shows per month pay the full rate.

The 500-seat theatre charging 33 cents admission, exclusive of tax, now pays Ascap $50 per year. Under the new plan it would pay $168.17, if it gave two shows daily. But if it gave four shows a day its new tax would be $240.24, and at three shows daily the new tax would be $204.20.

Levy Confers with Mills

Meanwhile, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America swung into action late last week. Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, conferred in New York with E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap and now an industrial relations counsellor.

Results of the conference were not disclosed but the MPTOA board in July authorized Levy to approach Mills on the possibility of his directing an exhibitor counter-offensive against Ascap.

Levy, reached at his New Haven, Conn., law office on Friday, declined to comment, saying only that the matter called for action by the MPTOA board.

Mills was out of town for the holiday weekend and it could not be learned at his New York office whether or not he expressed any interest in the MPTOA proposal. However, from other sources it was learned that Mills expressed the opinion that "exhibitors may have waited too long" to act and it may be too late already to halt the Ascap increase.

The matter appears to be headed back to the MPTOA board which will meet in Washington, Sept. 19 and 20, in connection with the proposed MPTOA-American Theatres Association merger.

RCA Promotes Winters

Harold M. Winters, former East-central regional manager for RCA Victor, has been appointed director of the company's distribution department, by Frank M. Folsom, executive vice-president. His headquarters will be in Camden.

Kaye Heads Vet Group

CHICAGO, Sept. 1, — Sammy Kaye, orchestra leader, has been named president of the Hospitalized Veterans Foundation, succeeding Jack Benny, one of the organization's founders.

Canada's Music Fees

(*Continued from page* 1)

per seat are fixed to the end of 1947. The scale has been unchanged for theatres for the past three years.

There was no comment today from CAPAC regarding plans for Canadian theatres and generally there is no intimation of any intended revision. A formal application is to be made to the Copyright Appeal Board at Ottawa in December for approval of proposed fees for the following calendar year.

The procedure under the Copyright Act calls for a public hearing of the application from the Canadian Association when objections are received from groups affected. Sometimes months later the Board delivers a judgment which permits imposition of new CAPAC fees. Noteworthy in this connection is that the Appeal Board has not yet issued a ruling on what CAPAC can charge the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. for performing rights on the air for the current year, which is three-quarters gone.

Allied Tax Stand

(*Continued from page* 1)

signature of general counsel Abram F. Myers.

The letter called last session's hearings "premature," and said Allied hoped the hearings would be reopened in January "by which time the picture will have greatly changed and the need for a reduction of the tax will be apparent."

Myers said today that the letter was submitted more to "keep our identity before the committee" than for any other reason.

"The war rate in admissions was imposed with the understanding and upon the condition that it would be removed within six months after the shooting was over," the letter said. "Congress should now keep faith with the motion picture exhibitors."

Allied told Congress that "from all sections of the country comes word that, as regards the independent motion picture theatres, the war boom is about over." It stated that the recession will become serious during the seasonal hot weather slump and that "if as now seems likely, the decline continues during the next six months, some theatres will be in distress by early winter."

"Certainly the theatres will be in a stronger statistical position to ask for relief by next winter than they are now," Myers stated. He adds that by that time, the Internal Revenue figures, which have a considerable time-lag, "will clearly reflect the downward trend."

Allied warns that the committee should be careful to distinguish between the claims of the independent exhibitors and the big film companies, "The fact is," Allied says, "that due to the monopoly the major companies are able to drain off the receipts of the independent theatres in the form of film rentals for a limited number of pictures now being released . . . the independent exhibitors should not be prejudiced by the profits of the producing companies, the high salaries paid by those companies, or by the criticisms constantly directed against Hollywood."

Finally, the Allied letter says, the movies are a communications industry, along with newspapers, magazines and broadcasting, and should not continue to be subject to a special excise tax.

Rank Dollar Permit

(*Continued from page* 1)

postponed until spring, when it is hoped British Technicolor stock and equipment are expected to become available. If they are not available, the bank promises to then reconsider Rank's expenditure permit application, but it does not guarantee to issue one.

Rank claims no other dollar expenditure will be involved in the Fijis filming, these islands being in the sterling area. He has ordered preparations for the postponed production to proceed.

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The Directors of the *American Theatres Association* and the *Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America* invite *all* exhibitors regardless of size or affiliation to attend a *joint convention* where a consolidation of these two national organizations will be considered, and where vital industry problems will be studied.

SEPTEMBER 19 - 20
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62. NO. 45 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1947 TEN CENTS

Clift Proposes Formula for UK Tax Plan

One-Third Tax Freeze Suggested as a Solution

A suggestion that the present impasse between the British government and the American film industry concerning the 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax on U. S. film U. K. imports be solved by a formula under which there would be a 33⅓ per cent tax, a 33⅓ per cent monetary freeze, and 33⅓ per cent free of restrictions, was offered here yesterday by Sir Sidney Clift, head of the 44-theatre Clifton Circuit in England.

Sir Sidney, here with his wife and daughter for a month-and-one-half stay, declared that the British industry could not make enough pictures in ten years' time to keep all British theatres supplies for six months.

"It is tripe to say that the stoppage of U. S. films would help the British

(Continued on page 6)

'Kiss,' 'GWTW' Strong in N.Y.

Strong grosses are the rule, not the exception, at New York first-runs this week in spite of the American Legion "invasion" which, according to Broadway theatremen, kept many native New Yorkers at home and safe from the shenanigans of the former servicemen late last week. Counter-balancing this was the huge crowds out to view

(Continued on page 5)

Film Advertised in WB Reel, ATOI Says

Indianapolis, Sept. 2.—The Warner Pathe Newsreel is advertising "Life With Father," Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana charges in its current bulletin.

The organization recently leveled the same charges of advertising in newsreels against Paramount and 20th Century-Fox, contending "they should pay the exhibitor for running the ads."

"It's an ill omen for the new Warner news service," the bulletin comments.

PIC Committee Has Program to Fight Slurs on Industry

A widespread publicity and public relations program to combat the effects of hostile or careless criticisms of the motion picture industry has been developed by the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association, it was disclosed here yesterday by Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the committee and advertising-publicity director of 20th Century-Fox.

Schlaifer said that the program, now in concrete outline, had been evolved over a long time as a result of recurring crises involving public good will toward the industry.

The industry had been made a needless victim, because of lack of factual information in some cases, through a habitual practice of harrying Hollywood, and through purposely hostile or inspired motives, Schlaifer said.

"As members of an important committee of the MPA who are in direct contact with the public, we believe strongly that so far flung an institution of American life deserves better than to be a lone whipping boy for self-appointed critics of all varieties, including the sheerly flippant and the oddly malevolent." Schlaifer declared.

He said that "sometimes this atti-

(Continued on page 4)

Walsh, Brewer Don't Recall 'IA Threat'

Los Angeles, Sept. 2.—Under questioning by House Labor subcommittee attorney Irving G. McCann, IATSE president Richard Walsh and International representative Roy Brewer replied "I don't remember" to interrogation whether they had threatened to withdraw workers in the summer of 1946 if set erection work awarded IATSE by the AFL

(Continued on page 4)

Mills Won't Fight Ascap Without Unity

E. C. Mills, former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, who was approached by Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America last week to head an exhibitor opposition move against Ascap's recently announced 300 per cent increase in theatres music

(Continued on page 4)

Brazil Weighs Tax Rise from 3 to 12%

San Paulo, Brazil, Sept. 2.—The Brazilian government, following Britain's ad valorem tax increase on American and other foreign film imports, is considering increasing the tax on foreign film dollar remittances from three to 12 per cent.

In effect, the dollar remittance tax would be raised from 10 per cent on each 30 per cent of the remittance to 20 per cent on each 60 per cent of remittance.

All Argentine Film Imports Suspended

By NATALIO BRUSKI

Buenos Aires, Aug. 29 (By Airmail).—In a move affecting films, all imports were temporarily suspended by the Central Bank (the government's official bank). The measure was taken so that a thorough study could be made of the effects on Argentina of England's recent decision on the inconvertibility of the pound into dollars. Although imports were officially suspended Aug. 21, there had been a complete paralysis for about a month because the Central Bank had not been granting import permits. The situation is serious and if the bank does not adopt necessary measures shortly, it is reported theatremen will find themselves without any product

Meanwhile, Manny Reiner, David O. Selznick's representative, is in Buenos Aires at present, setting up an arrangement for the distribution of the company's films in Argentina.

Sur has completed a deal with United Artists whereby the former will produce five films in Argentina

(Continued on page 6)

McNamara is Named SRO Vice-President

The board of directors of Selznick Releasing Organization, has elected Paul MacNamara vice-president of that company, in charge of public relations. MacNamara has also been elected vice-president for public relations of Vanguard Films, principal Selznick producing unit. The office is a new one in both companies.

MacNamara was elected to the identical post in both companies, in order that he might coordinate and have full charge of all publicity, advertising, exploitation and public relations of Selznick enterprises throughout the world. He will continue to make his headquarters in Hollywood.

U.K. Forced to Tax Films: BOT Official

But Emphasizes 'Door Still Open' for Talks

By PETER BURNUP

London, Sept. 2.—Legal advice given the British government to the effect that the freezing of American film revenue in Britain would be a violation of the Loan Agreement between Britain and the United States decided the government on film taxation as the only means of reducing Britain's dollar expenditures for films, a Board of Trade spokesman said at a press conference here today.

(Ed. Note: Officials of the American industry contend that a voluntary freezing, such as they proposed to Britain before the imposition of the films tax, would not violate the Loan Agreement. They agree that a compulsory freezing would be illegal.)

The BOT spokesman, however, stated emphatically that the "door is still open for further negotiations." In fact, the general feeling of press representatives at the interview was that abundant confirmation had been given for the view that the government is disposed to consider any rational compromise proposal to replace the Dalton films tax.

Asked whether Americans have

(Continued on page 6)

Goodman Heads 1st E-L Sales Division

Del Goodman has been appointed Eagle-Lion Films' first division manager as a step in the company's recently-announced plan for expansion of its national sales organization, as revealed by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. Goodman will be West Coast division manager, effective immediately.

Simulaneously, Schwalberg also appointed two district managers to serve in Goodman's division, Sam Milner, who becomes district manager for Portland, Seattle and San Francisco,

(Continued on page 5)

In This Issue

Key city grosses are reported on page 5.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal-International board chairman, is due back here from Europe at the weekend.

•

Abe Blumenfeld of the Blumenfeld circuit, San Francisco, has been informed that his daughter, who disappeared during a sailing cruise off Finland, is being detained by the Russians pending investigation. Blumenfeld has asked President Truman to intervene.

•

David Golding, Morris Helprin's special representative in London for London Films, will leave here for England today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

Harold Mirisch, Allied Artists vice-president, will leave Hollywood for New York this week for talks with Edward Morey, A. A. vice-president.

•

George Brown, advertising-publicity director at the Paramount studio, is due here Saturday for a week's stay.

•

Edward M. Schnitzer, United Artists Eastern and Canadian sales manager, will be in Philadelphia today from New York.

•

Robert M. Moscow, production manager for Sack Amusement Enterprises, Dallas, is in town from Dallas.

•

John P. Elzey of the Delta Theatre Supply Co., New Orleans, has returned there from a business trip to Lafayette, La.

•

Charles Durmeyer, president of Southern Automatic Candy Co., is back in Atlanta after a trip to South Florida.

•

Bruce Roberts has been named manager of the Corcoran and Lake Theatres, Corcoran, Cal., operated by Robert L. Lippert.

•

Ruth Smelter, advertising director for Strand Amusement Co., Bridgeport, Conn., will be married to E. J. Surowiec in October.

•

Maury Orr, United Artists Western sales manager, is in Chicago en route to Milwaukee.

•

A. C. Lyles, Pine-Thomas publicity representative, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

Francis Winikus, United Artists advertising manager, returned to his desk yesterday following a week's vacation.

•

Jerome J. Cohen, film insurance specialist, is en route to South America from New York.

•

Irving Zussman, president of Metro Premium Co., is in Cleveland.

19th M.P. Almanac Is Published This Week

The 1947-48 edition of the *International Motion Picture Almanac* is published this week by Quigley Publications, New York, with biographies of some 11,000 in the volume—biographies of actors and actresses, directors, writers, production executives, exhibitors, and many more, compiled and edited by a staff under the general editorship of Terry Ramsaye, editor of Q. P.'s *Motion Picture Herald.*

This 19th edition comprises 1,050 pages of facts on the industry. It includes graphs showing motion picture theatres grosses from 1942 and comparing admissions with rises in salaries and retail prices. There is an integrated report of the year, prepared by Ramsaye, reports from *Herald* foreign correspondents in 39 countries, from Argentina to Yugoslavia, the "Great Hundred" motion pictures of all time, complete text of the codes affecting the industry and the New York Federal Court's decree in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry. There is a complete listing of all motion picture corporations, their structure, organization, executive personnel and financial statements, and other items.

Lippert Negotiating For Redwood Houses

San Francisco, Sept. 2.—Robert L. Lippert, whose recent deal to purchase Golden State Theatres, T. and D. Jr. Enterprises and San Francisco Theatres, was sidetracked in favor of sale to Mike Naify, is now reported close to the signing stage with George Mann of Redwood Theatres to acquire the latter's 24 Northern California houses. The deal is considered certain of consummation as Mann is eager to sell if agreeable terms can be reached.

This would place Lippert in control of the only four theatres in Modesto, and the only four in Eureka, both considered fertile territory for additional houses. Invasion of this idea by other circuits has long been contemplated.

Johnston in Hospital With Bursitis Attack

Washington, Sept. 2. — Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston entered the hospital here tonight for a week's treatment for bursitis in his left shoulder.

Johnston was in Emergency Hospital Saturday and Sunday for diagnosis and observation and when the condition did not improve, returned for prolonged treatment today.

He is slated to be back at his desk by the middle of the month, and to be in shape to go to London to meet with British officials if necessary by the latter part of September.

Luncheon for Turnbull

Hollywood, Sept. 2.—National Theatres president Charles Skouras will be host at a luncheon Thursday at Perino's Restaurant for Ernest Turnbull, managing director of Hoyt's Theatres, Australia.

Balaban to Present Award to Cantor

Philadelphia, Sept. 2. — Eddie Cantor will come to this city tomorrow night to receive the 1947 "Humanitarian Award" given by the United Jewish Appeal in recognition of his service to 1,500,000 Jewish survivors overseas. The presentation will be made by Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, and head of the motion picture division of the UJA.

In addition to Cantor and Balaban, those participating in the program will include Ned E. Depinet, president of RKO Radio; Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of New York, and Sam Shain, representing Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox.

FP - C Conventions Under Way at Banff

Toronto, Sept. 2.—The Eastern convention of Famous Players Canadian Corp. and its partners and affiliated companies has been set for the Chateau Frontenac at Quebec City for Sept. 18-20. President J. J. Fitzgibbons and other headoffice executives will outline the circuit's policy, program and progress.

The Western conference is being conducted at Banff in the Canadian Rockies during the three days ending Wednesday night, Sept. 3. Among those attending from Toronto are vice-president R. W. Bolstad and James R. Nairn while L. I. Bearg, Western division manager, is in charge.

Irish Productions Formed in Dublin

Dublin, Sept. 2.—Irish Productions, Ltd., has been formed here with a capital of 100,000 pounds ($400,000). Directors are Joe McGrath, controller of the Irish Sweepstakes; Arthur Cox, attorney; Dan Breen, member of the Dail, Irish legislature. It is understood that other board members include Eustace Shott, member of an accountancy firm and an adviser to McGrath, and John Robinson, architect.

The company's planned schedule includes "Androcles and the Lion," "St. Francis," and "St. Joan." No announcement has been made yet concerning either locations for filming or studio building.

Greenfield, Miller Lead Blumberg Drive

Universal - International's New Haven branch, headed by Arthur Greenfield, and the Minneapolis branch, headed by L. J. Miller, have taken first and second positions, respectively, in the company's current Nate J. Blumberg-J. Arthur Rank sales drive, replacing the Denver and Seattle branches which shared the lead during the first 12 weeks of the 22-week drive. The Dave Miller district, which includes the Albany, Buffalo and New Haven exchanges, holds first position in the district standing while the Eastern division, headed by Fred Meyers is the leading division.

Newsreel Parade

GENERAL EISENHOWER addressing the American Legion convention and the parade of the latter in New York highlight the current newsreels. A baby parade, swimming race, a cyclist race and a three-year old music prodigy are among other items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 2—Le 40-and-eight parade. General Eisen talks to Legionnaires. Baby parade in Asbury Park. Fashions in furs. Rough water swimming. Jousting on the Seine. French diving meet. Diving fun at Aqua meet.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 200—General Eisenhower stirs Legion. Forty-and-Eight rides in New York, as vets take over city. Picking Mr. and Mrs. America, Jr. Coast Guard to the rescue of baby seals. Golf.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 3—Indonesia: UN dispatches order to cease fire. Some 25,000 seek healing at Lourdes. New party announces candidates. Asbury Park baby parade. New York's maddest parade.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 70—American Legion's 40-and-Eight parade. Converted bomb factory stores surplus war machines. Youngsters strut in Asbury Park parade. Mile-long rough water swim at La Jolla, Cal. Salt water regatta at Wildwood, N. J.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 5—General Eisenhower speaks to the Legion. Food reaches Greeks. Three-year old prodigy gives a concert. Uneasy truce in Indonesia. Cyclist race. Orphans see water show.

SCTOA to Offer Motion on TOA

Hollywood, Sept. 2.—The board of Southern California Theatre Owners Association will submit to its membership at a meeting on Sept. 9 a resolution to join the Theatre Owners of America on condition that the bylaws provide that the directorate of the new organization be under the control of independent theatre owners and that when associations become members, each theatre owner may determine whether he wishes identification with TOA as an individual member.

Ohio ITO To Meet

Columbus, Sept. 2.—The Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio will hold a special meeting on Friday in the Deshler-Wallick hotel here to consider action on pending municipal admission taxes throughout the state. A model city tax ordinance will be discussed.

$250,000 for 'Tom' Ads

Hollywood, Sept. 2.—George Pal vice-presidents Sterling Pile and John B. Rhodes, were here from New York for conferences at which they set a $250,000 advertising budget for "Tom Thumb," and following conclusion of the sessions, they have returned to New York.

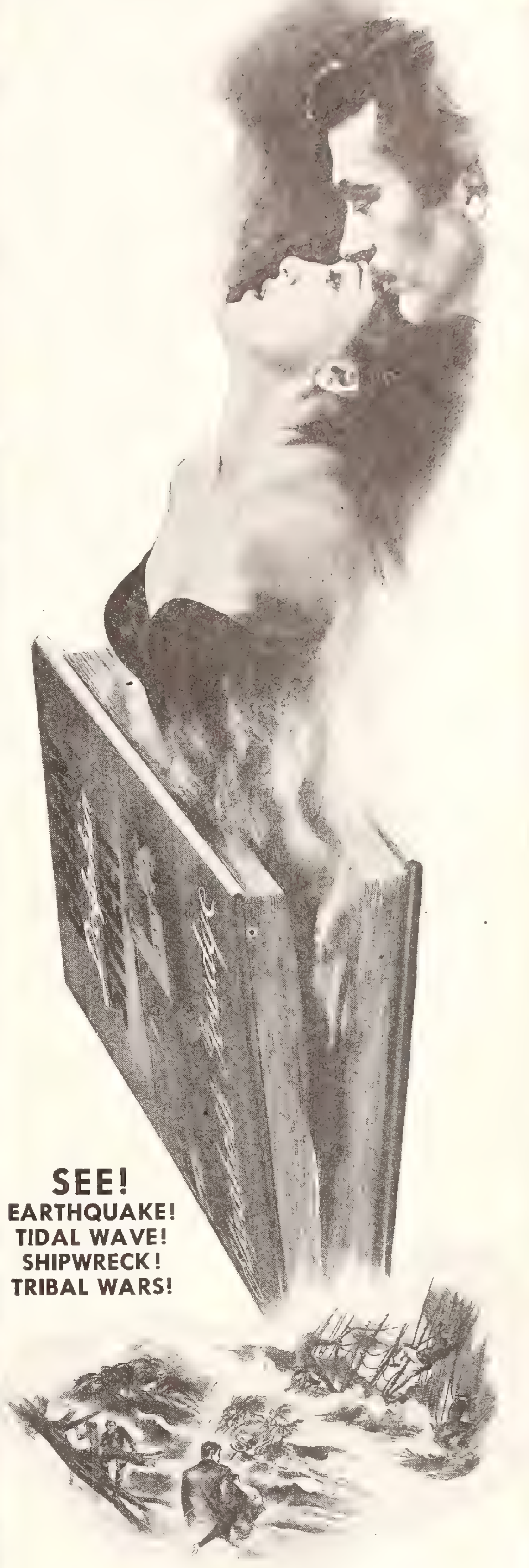
'Stallion' Ad Budget Up

National advertising and promotion budget for Eagle-Lion's Cinecolor "Red Stallion," has been increased $100,000 over the company's original record-breaking $250,000. Budgets will also be increased on "Out of the Blue" and "Love from a Stranger."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

ULSE OF THE UBLIC BEATS 00% FOR -G-M's "GREEN OLPHIN STREET"!

There has never been an audience reaction as emphatic as the one just given "Green Dolphin Street" at the Prospect Theatre, Flushing, N. Y. This Preview, which topped even the thunderous ovation accorded this picture in California, confirms industry opinion that M-G-M has for showmen the Biggest Attraction in 15 years!



SEE!
EARTHQUAKE!
TIDAL WAVE!
SHIPWRECK!
TRIBAL WARS!

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER presents

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"

LANA TURNER
VAN HEFLIN · DONNA REED · RICHARD HART
FRANK MORGAN · EDMUND GWENN
DAME MAY WHITTY · REGINALD OWEN
GLADYS COOPER

Screen Play by Samson Raphaelson
Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Goudge
Directed by VICTOR SAVILLE
Produced by CAREY WILSON

Jurisdictional Tilt Deadlock Continues

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—Attempts to settle the 11-month-old jurisdictional strike at the film studios here, initiated at the end of last week, were brought to an unsuccessful halt following a meeting of representatives of the International Alliance of Theatrical and Stage Employes and officers of rival AFL unions which failed to resolve any of the disputed issues.

Consequently the Congressional probe of Hollywood studio labor continued today after an adjournment was called to allow the disputants the opportunity to work out a basis for settlement.

The session was arranged by Archbishop John J. Cantwell, represented at the parley by Pat Casey who recently retired as labor negotiator for the studios. Casey said following the meeting that because of the loss of the British market for new films, studio activity is at its lowest level in 20 years and as a result of this 75 per cent of IATSE members are out of work in addition to the strikers.

In announcing the continuance of his investigation, Rep. Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of the House labor subcommittee, warned that new legislative restrictions on unions might be the outcome of the deadlock.

William L. Hutcheson, president of the striking carpenters' union, had authorized peace negotiations and appointed Joseph Cambiano to represent him in meetings. Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, insisted, however, that Hutcheson himself participate in the negotiations along with Lawrence Lindelof, president of the Brotherhood of Painters, members of which also walked out of the studios following months of disagreement over work allocations.

Yesterday's meeting was presided over by Msgr. Thomas O'Dwyer, who also represented the Archbishop; Roy Brewer, for the "IA"; Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions; Cambiano, and others.

SOPEG Loew Unit Meets on Layoffs

Members of the Loew's chapter of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild held a special meeting here last night to discuss the layoff of 14 more members in the sales contract and accounting departments.

Leaflets distributed by SOPEG yesterday charged that the layoffs have "resulted in seniority violations and speed-up." SOPEG officials conferred with the head of the company's personnel department yesterday, but issued no report on the session.

Mills-Ascap

(*Continued from page 1*)

taxes, reportedly will not consider the proposal unless a united exhibitor front can be formed to back whatever program might be developed, it was learned yesterday.

Mills is said to feel that while the time for action against Ascap's rate increase may already be past, no plan would be likely to be effective unless it had the solid backing of the nation's exhibitors.

Trade observers reviewing past efforts to obtain exhibitor unity are not optimistic about the chances for success of any move to get exhibitors together, even in opposition to the music tax.

Indications are that Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, who conferred with Mills last week, will report the conditions laid down by the former Ascap executive to the MPTOA board when it meets in Washington, Sept. 19-20, in connection with the proposed MPTOA and American Theatres Association merger.

Mills was the author of the present Ascap music tax formula and 10 years ago developed the basis of the new licensing proposal. He is at present an industrial relations counsellor.

Take Advantage of Contract Extension: Indiana ATO

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 2.—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, which spearheaded a drive at last winter's session of the state legislature to pass a bill curbing the alleged ASCAP "monopoly," has urged all exhibitors to "immediately take advantage of the offer to extend the old agreement until an ASCAP representative does visit (each) to completely clarify the new plan."

Commenting on proposed rates based on highest net admission prices, ATOI declared: "We doubt that an occasional roadshow would form a basis for figuring one full capacity at the highest admission price charged. That kind of calculation could make a 500-seat theatre pay an annual music tax of $500. But, because of the possibility of more and more road shows it might be advisable to delay contracting for any until this point is specifically decided upon."

The ASCAP bill at the 1947 biennial session of the state legislature passed both houses with a single dissenting vote, only to be vetoed by the Governor on the grounds that it was a matter that could best be handled on a nation-wide basis.

NCA Advises Members to Sign Ascap 60-Day Clause

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 2.—Disclosing that theatres have received notice of cancellation of contract with ASCAP for payment of a license fee, effective Oct. 12, with a clause extending the grace period 60 days for payments under present terms, Stanley Kane, North Central Allied executive director, reports he is recommending that all members who have paid the tax should take advantage of the extension.

"We are apparently powerless to halt ASCAP's 300 per cent tax hike," Kane said, "so it appears the most logical thing is to sign the extension clause pending further action."

Kane said National Allied "wants all the time it can get to prepare a fight against the ASCAP hike, pointing out that Allied has already stated its intention to attack ASCAP in the next session of Congress, urging that the music license fee be paid by producers.

SCTOA Against ASCAP Temporary Licenses

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—Contrary to the recommendations given by many other organizations, the Southern California Theatre Owners Association has urged that its members sign no temporary extensions of agreements with the American Society of Composers, Authors & Composers.

Ad Committee

(*Continued from page 1*)

tude suggests an almost psychopathic hysteria, as if Hollywood and the picture-making business held a monopoly on all human frailty," and he added that "we intend to try to challenge this attitude whenever it seems to us to be baseless, careless or selfish, taking criticism where we deserve it, but insisting upon sanity and fairness, in the American way."

Under the program which the committee proposes to carry out—not as a drive, but as a continuing undertaking—the American people will be reminded constantly not only of the quality levels achieved by Hollywood productions, but the attainments and acceptance of the motion picture as an adult institution of society within one generation.

Attention will be called also to the industry's status as a self-regulating and policing institution, standing for freedom of expression for all media of communication and for self responsibility as well. The record of Hollywood in depicting the free way of life to the world, in conveying wholesome messages to theatre-goers the world over will be cited.

The committee is representative of all major companies, as follows: Chairman, Schlaifer, 20th Century-Fox; Ben Serkowich, Columbia; Howard Dietz and Si Seadler, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; Curtis Mitchell and Stanley Shuford, Paramount; S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio; Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists; Maurice Bergman and Hank Linet, Universal-International; Mort Blumenstock and Gil Golden, Warner Brothers.

Walsh, Brewer

(*Continued from page 1*)

directive was restored to the carpenters under the 1946 "clarification."

This development, highlighting a day devoted to testimony canvassing the period immediately preceding outbreak of the present strike, led to the summoning of E. J. Mannix, B. B. Kahane, Y. Frank Freeman and Fred S. Meyers, members of the producer committee which met with Brewer and Walsh from Aug. 22nd to the outbreak of the strike last Sept. 17th to testify tomorrow.

McCann asked Walsh: "Did you, in consultation with producers, on Aug. 22, 1946, says that if any company attempted to comply with the AFL clarification, you would stop all work in studios, exchanges and theatres?"

Walsh answered "I don't remember saying that." Brewer had replied similarly to a parallel question.

Starr, Olman Aren't Telling About Ascap

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' increased theatre license rate apparently is not a matter for discussion, other than private, so far as representatives of the music publishing subsidiaries of the film companies are concerned.

Herman Starr, vice-president of Warners, head of its four publishing firms and a director of Ascap, de[illegible]d to comment when asked yesterday if he had taken any stand against the new Ascap rate or if any is intended. While the music companies stand to profit by increased fees, the parent company's losses would be greater by far.

Starr, whose WB music publishing firms include Harms, Witmark, Advance and Remick, pointed out that he owes allegiance to both Warners and Ascap, and said he is not in a position to discuss the matter, other than that he is a "neutral observer." So far as Ascap policy-making is concerned, Starr said he is only one of 24 members of the board and refused to elaborate on this further.

Abe Olman, general manager of the Robbins, Fiest and Miller music publishing companies, all owned by Loew's, and also an Ascap board member, said he is not familiar with all of the details of the rate increase, having just returned from a vacation, and could hardly discuss it.

The Warner and Loew music companies represent a considerable portion of Ascap's publisher membership.

Bernard Goodwin, head of Paramount's Famous and Paramount Music companies, described his position as being that of only an Ascap member, not being on the board, and thus not empowered to exert any influence on Ascap policy.

Lesser, Ill, Weighs Role in Industry

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2. — Producer Sol Lesser will decide next weekend, upon his return to the studio after convalescing from a heart attack, the extent to which he will continue his industry activity in the future. Reports that he may curtail either production or exhibition operations, or both, followed the dismissal of his publicity staff, with Jerry Hoffman, Lesser publicity director for the past three years, joining Independent Artists.

Cameraman's Son Killed

MIAMI, Sept. 2.—An explosion on the cabin cruiser of Alfred Waldron, 20th-Fox Movietone News photographer, killed his youngest son, Richard, five, yesterday. Waldron saved an older son, Alfred Jr., seven, by swimming through flaming gasoline

Rites for Abe Silk

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—Funeral services were held here today at Glasband's Chapel for Abe Silk, 56, producer, who died on Friday. The widow and a daughter survive.
ADD ASCAP

Services for Soltz

BALTIMORE, Sept. 2.—Services were held here today for Sam Soltz, owner of the Howard Theatre, who died on Saturday. He is survived by a widow, a brother and two sisters.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" and "Variety Girl" are gathering exceptionally high grosses, giving the RKO Albee and Palace, respectively, their biggest return in many months, in a week of oppressively hot weather and high grosses on practically all fronts. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 2-5:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $15,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Grand. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)

LITTLE MISS BROADWAY (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **THUNDERGAP OUTLAW (Eagle-Lion).** Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

RIFF-RAFF (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualed with **A LIKELY STORY (RKO Radio).** Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $7,500)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-7$c-75c). Gross: $23,000. Average: $15,000)

WEST OF DODGE CITY (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio).** Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)

ATLANTA

Business in most theatres is good, with weather hot and dry. "Dear Ruth" has been held over for a third week at the Roxy. Estimated receipts for week ending Sept. 3:

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $5,700)

DANGEROUS VENTURE (UA) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (Eagle-Lion)—CAPITAL (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,500)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $19,250. (Average: $19,000)

THE UNFAITHFUL (WB) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $7,900. (Average: $7,900)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)

BALTIMORE

The holiday weekend lacked customary patrons. Evidently most amusement seekers went out of town, driven by hot, humid weather. However, "Variety Girl" is drawing capacity. "Down to Earth," plus a stage show, also is in the top brackets. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 4:

ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,500)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,500)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,500)

FANTASIA (RKO Radio)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56). Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)

GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M) reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-56c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,000)

DENVER

In general, business is well above average here, with "Welcome Stranger," in its first week at the Denham, leading the gross field. "Cry Wolf" also bowed in strong at the Denver. "Life with Father" and "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" are enjoying profitable second weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 2:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,500)

THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.) and NEWSHOUNDS (Mono.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

CRY WOLF (WB) and SON OF RUSTY (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Webber. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000)

CRY WOLF (WB) and SON OF RUSTY (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Denver. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,000)

DISHONORED LADY (UA) and ROAD TO HOLLYWOOD (Astor)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After week each at Denver and Webber. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)

DUEL IN THE SUN (SRO) — RIALTO (878) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 6th week in Denver first runs. Gross: $4,500. (Average at regular prices: $3,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—ESQUIRE (742) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 2nd week, day-and-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB) — PARAMOUNT (2,200) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.20) 2nd week, day-and-date with the Esquire. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $11,000)

BUFFALO

"Song of the Thin Man" and "Moss Rose" were excellent at the Buffalo, despite the Labor Way weekend. The heat has disappeared after breaking records in August. "Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" is good at the Century. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 6:

BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $18,200. (Average: $16,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.) and THIRTEENTH HOUR (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox) and CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $10,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and MOSS ROSE (20th-Fox)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,400. (Average: $18,000)

New York Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

the "40 and 8" parade on Saturday and good holiday business on Monday.

The Mayfair converted to first-run this week with "Kiss of Death" and the switch of policy is having very favorable results. The first week's business is climbing to an impressive $48,000. And making news again is "Gone with the Wind" at the Criterion where collections Saturday through Monday were of jack-pot proportions, about $26,000.

"Song of the Thin Man" with Bill Robinson and Art Mooney's orchestra on stage should give the Capitol a good $61,000 in a first week. First week of "Lured" probably will mean a healthy $17,000 at the Victoria. "Something in the Wind" is having a mild debut at the Winter Garden which is likely to draw about $23,000 for a first week.

Generally, holdovers are outshining new ones at the "showcases." At the Roxy, "Mother Wore Tights," with Jack Haley and Ella Logan topping a stage show, wound up a second week with a tremendous $133,000; a holiday weekend record is claimed.

"Welcome Stranger" and Carmen Cavallaro on stage are still a top-money combination at the Paramount where the fourth week's gross is estimated at $93,000. "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" also is luring crowds with a third week's take of $55,000 indicated for the Astor.

At the Music Hall, "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," with a stage presentation is on its way to a handsome sixth week's gross of $137,000. The pint-sized Fulton and Sutton houses are still amassing top returns with British (Universal-International) product. "Black Narcissus" at the Fulton is good for $18,000 in its third week, while "I Know Where I'm Going" will provide a second week's income of $13,000, estimated, at the Sutton.

The Rivoli's profitable tenant of long standing, "Crossfire," is headed for a $29,000 in a sixth week; this is good. "Life with Father" is an outstanding box-office performer at the Warner, which figures on $55,000 in a third week. "Deep Valley," with Count Basie's musical aggregation, at the Strand, is doing nicely with $69,000 in view for a second week. "The Roosevelt Story" is holding up well at the Globe where $31,000 is apparent for a second week. Two re-issues at the Gotham, "Shark Woman" and "Night Cargo," are fair at $8,100 for a week. "Frieda" is losing ground in its third week at the Park, the gross being estimated at $8,000.

MGM Sales Cabinet Starts Coast Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 2.—William F. Rodgers and his sales cabinet launched a five-day meeting at the Ambassador today with the screening of "Green Dolphin Street" and "If Winter Comes." "Good News" and "Cass Timberlane" will be screened tomorrow.

Sales policy for "Green Dolphin Street" is reported to be among the major matters on the agenda.

Mueller in New Post

ATLANTA, Sept. 2.—Milton F. B. Mueller has been appointed sales representative of the Southeastern Theatre Equipment Co.

Goodman with E-L

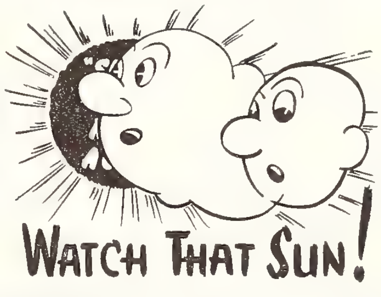
(*Continued from page* 1)

with headquarters in San Francisco, and Beverly Miller, named district manager for Salt Lake City, Denver and Kansas City, with headquarters in Kansas City.

Goodman entered the industry in 1914, with Pathe. In 1919, following his discharge from the Army, he went with the old W. W. Hodkinson Co., a predecessor of Paramount, shifting the next year to United Artists' Chicago office. In 1922, he joined Fox's foreign sales organization as Far Eastern manager, remaining until 1940, when he returned to this Continent and became managing director of Paramount of Canada. In 1942 Goodman returned to the United States, spending several months at Paramount's home office before shifting to Los Angeles as West Coast district manager. In his new capacity, Goodman will make his headquarters at E-L's Los Angeles exchange.

Beacon Heads Eagle-Lion Canadian Exploitation

TORONTO, Sept. 2.—Tony Beacon, former publicity man for Universal in Hollywood and one-time resident of Montreal, has been appointed exploitation director of Eagle-Lion Films of Canada, here, succeeding Frank Failes. The latter resigned recently following the retirement in July of A. J. Laurie as general manager of J. Arthur Rank's Canadian distributing company. Beacon served with the American Army in the Pacific and was wounded at Okinawa.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Extra Handicap for Technicolor in UK

The "unintentional discrimination" to which Technicolor fell victim in terms of import tax-free product now in England was cited here yesterday by William B. Levy, world-wide sales manager for Walt Disney Productions, which releases through RKO Radio, who has returned to New York from a nine-week business tour of England and the Continent.

Since Technicolor negatives were retained in America when product was sent to England, Levy explained, the number of American-made Technicolor prints now in England cannot be increased during the present Anglo-American tax stalemate, for the British 75 per cent-of-earnings tax applies to Technicolor matrices which enter that country now. Actually, he said, that situation has yet to be "100 per cent clarified," but to all appearances the few prints of Disney's new "Fun and Fancy Free" are all that RKO Radio will have when the picture opens in London shortly. Were the film made in black-and-white, Levy said, it could be duplicated in England.

The British public does not seem to be particularly appalled over the withholding of U. S. pictures, he said, adding that he could contribute no additional information on the tax situation. Levy said there is about a 12 months' supply of Disney short subjects stored in Britain.

He pointed out that the British tax action is but one phase of the British government's emergency powers which can be extended to "plug loopholes of dollar leakages."

While in France, Levy closed deals for the day-and-date showing of "Bambi" in Paris. The picture will open there in the fall in four houses, he said, adding that he believed it will be the first time that an American picture has played on so extensive a day-and-date run in the French capital. "Dumbo," he said, will also open soon in France.

Queried on whether U. S. exhibitors are showing any inclination to pay higher rentals for short subjects in view of increased labor and production costs, Levy said, "considerable progress" is being made in that connection.

James Hagen Dies

James Hagen, playwright and former screen writer whose "One Sunday Afternoon" was transcribed to the screen, died on Monday of a heart attack in Cincinnati, according to press reports reaching here. He was visiting his son, Douglas E. Hagen. Also surviving is his widow.

WE WARN YOU!
BEWARE!

U.K. Forced

(*Continued from page* 1)

been given the impression that "the tax is here to stay," the BOT spokesmen replied: "The possibility of a satisfactory alternative being found has never been excluded."

The spokesman, however, expressed his personal belief that the American embargo on film shipments to England might not continue. Also, he stated that Americans might prefer one dollar out of four to none, and he refused to deny or confirm that talks looking to a compromise are now proceeding on a high level.

The net effect of all this was to leave his questioners with the decided opinion that the authorities here hope that a settlement will be reached shortly.

Questioned on the consequences of the continuance of the American film embargo, the spokesman said Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, cognizant of the danger of forced closing of theatres here, is particularly alive to the need for increased production and has already informally indicated to the British Film Producers Association that he is willing to enter into talks covering ways and means of stimulating production.

Regarding the recent pronouncement of the left-wing Film Industry Employes Council, virtually advocating a complete banning of American films, the BOT spokesman said the communication had been received by Cripps who doubtless will make an appropriate reply. It appears obvious, however, that the Council's suggestions are destined for the discard.

The spokesman said that despite the announced drastic cut in imports of timber the Board of Trade hopes that the present timber allocations to studios can be maintained.

In view of the circumstance that every trained technician here is fully employed now no useful purpose could be served by building new studios but it was hinted that the nation's present endeavor, through the Elvins Act, to restrict the employment of technicians to the existing membership of the Alliance of Cinematograph Technicians, thereby creating a closed corporation, might some day demand a forthright showdown.

It is felt that the government's threat to adopt a policy of labor direction will not affect studio employes but it is uncertain at the moment what its potential effect on distribution and exhibition employes may be.

The BOT spokesman confirmed that the government already has drafted its new Films Quota bill without consideration being given to the new tax on imported films.

Inferentially agreeing that progress is being made in current compromise talks, the spokesman said the "tax question" might cause a slight delay in publication of the new quota bill.

It was also confirmed that Cripps is prepared to delete the renters' quota provided American distributors formally pledge to continue production here. It was pointed out that the British government definitely made reservations in the agreement reached at the recent Geneva trade conference which would bar all quotas except an exhibitors' quota, that agreement itself being only a preliminary to later definitive action to be taken at the Havana conference this fall.

"It boils down to a question of either a voluntary or compulsory renters' quota," the spokesman said.

There has been no meeting yet on this question between the BOT and American distributors here.

"If an agreement is not reached," he said, "the Quota Act must go forward to include a renters' quota."

This confirms previous reports that the government contemplates that American companies, in the event of a compromise involving a freezing of their British revenues, would use a proportion of their frozen funds here.

Referring to the strong protest by the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association against the Dalton film tax, the BOT spokesman said he hoped that a properly considered reply would be forthcoming from the government shortly.

This was taken as internal evidence that the government will not reply until its position has been clarified.

It was confirmed that no films have been imported since the imposition of the duty. It was also stated that the BOT does not anticipate any retaliatory action by the French against British films.

Australia Reduces Imports; No Mention of U. S. Films

CANBERRA, Australia, Sept. 2.—Prime Minister Chifley tonight announced that Australia will cut its imports from the U. S. sharply in order to reduce the country's dollar expenditures. Designed to reduce an estimated $85,000,000 deficit in the country's dollar trading this year, the plan embodies a cut of about $35,000,000 in the country's purchases from the U. S.

British Spending More Money On Films, Other Entertainment

LONDON, Sept. 2. — Britons are spending considerably more money on entertainment and self-indulgence than before the war, according to an analysis of the nation's expenditure on pleasure issued by the central office of the Conservative party today.

Films, alcohol, cigarettes, gambling and vacationing are all taking a bigger percentage of the national purse, the analysis showed. It is estimated that an equivalent of $6,300,000,000 was spent on those items in 1946.

Tobacco imports, newsprint, aircraft, auto parts and textiles are among items which face severe import curtailment, but no mention has been made of action against American films.

Snyder Sails Today for London Financial Talks

Secretary of the Treasury John W. Snyder heads a group of 148 representatives to the London conference of the International Bank and Monetary Fund, leaving here today on the *SS Queen Elizabeth*.

Among the representatives are John J. McCloy, president of the International Bank; Dr. Don Antonio Espinosa de Los Monteros, Mexican Ambassador to the U. S.; William McChesney Martin Jr., chairman of the Import and Export Bank; and Allan Sproul, governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Shares in Italy's ENIC

ROME, Sept. 2.—Authorization of the Italian Government to issue new shares, valued at 176,000,000 lira, in the ENIC, the largest Italian circuit theatre, was contained in a bill published here in the *Official Journal*.

Wallis Here After Finishing Film in UK

When the British government imposed its 300 per cent *ad valorem* duty on American films, "it came like a bombshell to the British industry," Hal Wallis, Paramount producer, reported here yesterday. Wallis returned here on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* after completing "So Evil My Love" in England.

Wallis said he had completed "So Evil My Love" on schedule and within budget. He plans to return to [illegible]land next Spring to produce an[illegible] picture. Among the possibilities is "The House of Mist," a novel by a Chilean author. Wallis will leave for Hollywood tomorrow, to work on the editing of "So Evil My Love."

Clift Formula on Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

industry," Sir Sidney said. "It is my belief that the government, when it imposed the tax, did so in panic. If the present situation continues, it will be very serious for the cinema proprietors of England and for the entire British industry. Our cinemas would have to close if the present situation continued."

Sir Sidney praised Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston's proposal of a 25 per cent freeze for six months as "a magnificent gesture," and added: "That would have been satisfactory to us." He said he intended to confer with Johnston.

Sir Sidney's views on the tax situation are shared by British exhibitors, Sir Sidney said. He added that he hopes to contribute to the solution of the problem while visiting in this country, and that he would confer with top industry executives.

"From the American viewpoint," Sir Sidney commented, "it would be a great blunder if every effort was not made to reach a compromise, since the British public might lose its taste for American films if the present situation were maintained."

He said he had conferred with J. Arthur Rank prior to the imposition of the tax, and that British exhibitors "appreciated American assistance in giving Rank more playing time."

Reiterating that British exhibitors want American films, Sir Sidney expressed the hope that the American industry will work out some arrangement to supply Britain with product. He added that he felt that if "the boot was on the other foot, we'd do the same," and suggested that if a certain amount of money could return to England from the showing of British films in the U. S., that factor might be considered in any possible solution.

Sir Sidney plans to remain here until Sept. 14, when he will leave for Hollywood. He will return to New York on Oct. 1 and sail for England on Oct. 18.

Argentine Imports

(*Continued from page* 1)

for UA. The contract has been signed here by Sam Bekeris, representing UA, and Manuel Pena Rodriguez for Sur.

Cinematografia Interamericana, distributors of Mexican and French films and producers of Argentine pictures, have increased its capital from $500,000 to $1,500,000.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Aug. 3	SON OF RUSTY Ted Donaldson Stephen Dunne D—69 min.			NEWS HOUNDS Leo Gorcey D—68 min (622) (Rev. 6/18/47)		BLACKMAIL William Marshall Adele Mara D—67 min. (617) (Rev. 8/4/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)		(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.	RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)		FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O 84 min. (618) (Rev. 7/28/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47) DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O	GAS HOUSE KIDS IN HOLLYWOOD Carl Switzer C—62 min. (Rev. 9/2/47)	(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. (Rev. 9/2/47) THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min. (Rev. 8/18/47)	DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 24		RAILROADED John Ireland D	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min.	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)			DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (Rev. 7/30/47)
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)			(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)			(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)		SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)		EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)		
Sept. 14			THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)		DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min.	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O 61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 10/29/41)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens	OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)		RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (Rev.10/20/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min.
Sept. 28				KING OF THE BANDITS			CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)				
Oct. 5		RETURN OF THE LASH O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C 82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	BOWERY BUCKAROOS C	ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (Rev. 8/11/47)			(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D			
Oct. 12			SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)					NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D			

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

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VOL. 62. NO. 46 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1947 TEN CENTS

Trend Is Seen Moving Toward Neighborhoods

Business in Those Runs Up As Much As 25-30%

Although national theatre grosses are averaging around 10 per cent under last year's peak, total attendance has declined much less than that, perhaps only five per cent according to reports from the field.

But there has been a gradual switch in attendance away from downtown houses with high boxoffice scales to neighborhood theatres with lower scales.

In some metropolitan centers, where downtown business is off about 10 per cent, neighborhood trade has gone up by 25 to 30 per cent.

Aggregate theatre grosses, by exchange areas, and in some cases by circuits, are down only around 5 to 10 per cent for the most part, although

(*Continued on page 6*)

Program Is Set for Equipment Meeting

CHICAGO, Sept. 3. — Much of the program has been set for the joint equipment exhibit and convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association, headed by Oscar F. Neu, and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, to be held on Sept. 25-28, at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington.

The convention will be officially opened with a luncheon on Thursday, Sept. 25. John Russell Young, pres-

(*Continued on page 6*)

139 Houses Approved, And 330 Are Denied

Washington, Sept. 3.—Since the new Housing Control Act went into effect, on July 1, the Housing Expediter has approved 139 theatre projects, costing $4,198,903, and denied 330, which would have cost $15,220,350, the proportionately higher total costs in the latter category indicating that the majority of rejections were for larger theatres than those in the group approved.

Allied Heads Veto TOA Bid

Invitations to attend the organizational meeting of the Theatre Owners of America, which would be a consolidation of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, have been "politely" turned down by Abram Myers and Jack Kirsch, general counsel and president, respectively, of Allied States.

Trueman T. Rembusch, president of Associated Theatres of Indiana, an Allied affiliate, also rejected the bid to the two-day convention at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, Sept. 19 and 20.

Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, disclosed here yesterday that other Allied unit leaders invited to the session have yet to answer. Coyne estimated that between 400 and 600 theatremen will attend.

Meanwhile, the TOA steering committee has yet to come up with a slate of officers to be submitted to the convention for a vote. While a number of executives have been approached

(*Continued on page 7*)

Union Heads Accept Bid to Meet Sunday

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 3.—International presidents of unions at loggerheads in the year-old studio strike will meet Sunday at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, on an invitation from Congressman Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of the House Labor subcommittee, in an attempt to effect a strike settlement, Kearns announced here today at the close of three weeks of hearings. Carpenters president Wil-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ascap Takes Consent Decree Plan to U.S.

Proposals for a consent decree in settlement of the recent "cartel" action filed against the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers by the Department of Justice were taken to Washington yesterday by Louis D. Frohlich of Ascap's counsel, Schwartz & Frohlich, for consideration by the government.

Details of the proposals were not made known. Ascap recently resigned from the international music licensing society. The suit was based primarily upon the now non-existent Ascap membership in that society.

N. J. Allied Board Maps Ascap Attack

Board of Directors of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey met at the Hotel Astor, here, yesterday to discuss objections to the Ascap theatre music tax increase and other matters, including the setting of a possible new date for holding of a mass meeting of New Jersey exhibitors to determine whether the tax-fighting Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, of which Jersey Allied is a part, shall be continued as a permanent organization.

Sept. 30 had been set previously for the Federation meeting, but it was learned unofficially that Sept. 12 was to be considered as a new meeting date, contingent on whether hotel space can be secured in Trenton or another New Jersey city at that time.

Some Britishers Would Parley Over Dalton Tax

LONDON, Sept. 3. — Despite the obstinate shroud of official reticence, probes in high Whitehall quarters reveal that even this country's harassed Socialist masters are now disposed to parley over that Dalton tax, and on terms, the pattern of which, at least, is known to some.

Cabinet ministers here, however, outwardly profess that nothing will get them to budge from Prime Minister Attlee's decree that only 25 per cent of American rentals will be permitted to cross the Atlantic. It sounds a blunt enough ordinance but it is an order which only becomes valid—and it is freely said that Hugh Dalton gave his plan of film import restrictions a deliberate underlying ambiguity—if imports of American films continue to run normally. Even theory-crazed economists of the Dalton entourage knew that Americans would not play on those terms; so that the ostensible bluntness of the ordinance immediately loses edge.

The fact is that the government's advisers decided that all the country currently can afford in ready money for American films is around four mil-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Production in England By U.A. Planned

Board Approves Project On Hearing Kelly Report

A lengthy meeting of the United Artists board of directors at the home office here yesterday voted in favor of the company's entry into production in England with financing to be arranged between the company and a British industrialist, otherwise unidentified.

This new development in Anglo-U. S. film affairs came as the result of reports on the entire British matter by Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president in charge of foreign operations, along with his recommended production plans. Kelly has been in London during the past several weeks and observed developments leading up to and following the American boycott of the British market.

The product to be made in England

(*Continued on page 7*)

More Ballyhoo Is Needed: Bergman

SYRACUSE, Sept. 3.—Parallel with the need for more ballyhoo in selling motion pictures to the public is the need for better public relations in selling the theatre and the motion picture industry in the community, Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International Eastern advertising publicity director told Schine Chain Theatres' managers

(*Continued on page 6*)

U. S. Distributors Avert Mexico Strike

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 3.—A strike which would have affected the major U. S. distributors in Mexico has been averted by signing of an agreement with section one of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union,

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Dark Passage" is reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are reported on page 6.

Personal Mention

IRVING ASHER, M-G-M producer, and his wife, LAURA LA PLANTE, who arrived here from London this week, will leave for Hollywood by plane at the weekend.

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ROWENA ("ROCKY") CHAITON of *Motion Picture Herald's* Managers' Round Table, and daughter of PHIL CHAITON, manager of Skouras's Tuxedo Theatre in the Bronx, will be married on Sunday to ABRAHAM MALAMUD at the Bronx Jewish Center.

•

"RED" PIERCE has become Altec branch manager in Philadelphia, succeeding F. B. EVANS, who has been transferred to Cincinnati as branch manager.

•

LOU GUIMOND, motion picture executive of the American Red Cross, and MRS. GUIMOND are in New York from Washington.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, returned to New York yesterday from St. Louis.

•

GEORGE SIDNEY, M-G-M director, and his wife, LILLIAN BURNS, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

ERNEST EMERLING, Loew's Theatres advertising-publicity director, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

LESLIE F. MORRIS, London operatting manager of Western Electric, Ltd., is in New York.

•

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK is in town from the Coast.

Beiersdorf Promoted; 3 New E-L Managers

Herman Beiersdorf, former Eagle-Lion special sales representative, has been promoted to district manager for the Southwestern district, comprising the Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans territories. Beiersdorf, veteran sales executive, was for many years with 20th Century-Fox in various sales capacities.

Branch managers designated to serve in the territory are: Clair Hilgers, Dallas; Claude York, Oklahoma City; George Pabst, New Orleans. All appointments are effective immediately.

Mayer, M-G-M Sales Cabinet to Confer

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 3. — Louis B. Mayer and M-G-M studio executives will confer with William F. Rodgers and his sales cabinet tomorrow for a discussion of forthcoming product and sales policies. Studio executives who will attend include E. J. Mannix, Ben Thau, Sam Katz, Louis K. Sidney, Al Lichtman, J. J. Cohn, James K. McGuinness, Lawrence Weingarten, J. G. Maher, Nicholas Nayfack and several producers.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

ATTENTION, please, of J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities:

"America's Town Meeting of the Air" on Tuesday dealt with the question, "Is There Really a Communist Threat in Hollywood?" Broadcast from Los Angeles, the affirmative was upheld by Mrs. Lela Rogers, mother of Ginger, and Jack B. Tenney, California state senator and author of "The Report on Un-American Activities in California, 1947." The negative was maintained by Emmet Lavery, president of the Screen Writers Guild, and Albert Dekker, actor and former member of the California state assembly.

Yesterday the New York *Herald-Tribune,* generally regarded as newspaper champion of the Republican Party in this country, published part of this air debate and quoted Tenney as follows:

"The threat of Communism in Hollywood has been gaining momentum since 1930. But, fortunately, the Communist thrust, as far as the production of Communist propaganda films is concerned, has failed miserably. Notorious Communist party liners have found it impossible to convey their Marxist pipe dreams to the screen. Producers of motion pictures are capitalists. Most of them are loyal Americans. It is absurd to believe that they would conspire for the destruction of free enterprise, life, liberty and the industry that brings them economic independence and dignity.

"The Communist menace in Hollywood lies in the glamour of its setting, of its names, its stars and its glittering make-believe."

That's all, Representative Thomas.

■ ■

Bob McElwaine, who is retained by Myrna Loy to get her name in print, objects in heated length to an Aug. 21 item in this column about the reported upward slide in his client's per-picture salary from an underpaid $150,000 to a fair-to-middling $200,000. Joe Skeptic, that sour-puss, had remarked $50,000 more or less meant nothing in Hollywood's life and besides, 27 fewer steno at $1,820 a year would balance the books. Asking for no space, we feel McElwaine ought to have part of his say:

"I don't assume you meant the item as a personal affront to Miss Loy. . . . I feel certain, however, that nearly anyone who reads the item will believe it to be an attack on Miss Loy because of her earning capacity. There was a time in this country when it was considered a virtue to be able to earn a large salary. Miss Loy's pictures have brought more than $100,000,000 into the nation's box-offices. Producers have this in mind when they employ her—even at the high fees her services demand. Her presence in a picture guarantees a high percentage return on the producers' investment—thus creating prosperity for the studios, the people they hire—including the 27 $1,820 secretaries—the exhibitors and the people who publish trade papers.

"Miss Loy is not under contract to any one studio. It is not necessary to trim any studio's expenses to meet her weekly salary demands. Any producer who desires Miss Loy's talent to bolster his picture knows in advance what allowance he must make in the budget. He cannot hire so many less electricians or so many less secretaries because he must pay for Miss Loy's presence in his picture. Perhaps, he must increase the budget of his picture, but this will insure him of a greater return at the box-office, as evinced by the success of 'The Best Years of Our Lives' and 'The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer', with the aforementioned healthy effect on the industry."

To which Joe Skeptic remarks, "If I ever need a press agent, McElwaine's my man."

■ ■

When the foolhardy presidents bundled into one Washington-to-New York plane after meeting Eric Johnston on the British tangle, the column was reminded of a reverse situation. It told of the Scotchman who sent his son to America on one boat and the baggage on another to make certain he wouldn't lose both.

This persuades George Borthwick of the Motion Picture Association to write: "Would you please describe my countrymen as Scotsmen or Scots, not Scotchmen?

"Scotch is found only in liquid form, and no wisecracks about that, either."

■ ■

Nubbin of a pithy address delivered yesterday by Maurice Bergman of Universal before a regional managers' meeting of the Schine circuit in Syracuse:

"Most of us have lost sight of the fact that the parade is just as important as the circus and that the ballyhoo is just as important as the show."

Who can say him nay?

Coming Events

Ending Today—M-G-M sales conference, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles.

Sept. 17—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers luncheon saluting the 16mm. film industry. Town Hall, New York.

Sept. 19-20—American Theatr[illegible]sociation and Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association joint membership meeting. Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 24-29—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 30—Century Circuit convention, Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1—Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association annual convention, Philips Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 20-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers' 62nd semi-annual convention, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Answers ATOI on WB Reel 'Ad' Charge

Replying yesterday to charges by Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana that "Life with Father" was "advertised" in a recent issue of Warner Pathe News, Mort Blumenstock, director of Warners advertising-publicity, said that the footage used was of the recent premiere of the picture at Skowhegan, Me., and pointed out that newspapers, magazines, news syndicates and other news agencies assigned reporters, photographers and special writers to cover the event and gave hundreds of columns of publication space to it.

"If it was news to newspapers and other publications," Blumenstock asked, "why wasn't it news for newsreels?"

He also pointed out that distributors sometimes are charged with insufficiently exploiting some pictures then, as in the present case, are criticized even when pictures are so elaborately exploited that they win the attention of metropolitan newspaper and international news services.

Feld's Condition 'Fair'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 3. — The condition of Eagle-Lion producer Milto Feld, who entered Cedars of Lebano Hospital on Aug. 13, is "fair," according to attending physicians. Meanwhile, a knee injury which has confined Lou Costello to bed for tw months has caused postponement o Feld's Abbott and Costello starrer fo E-L, "The Noose Hangs High."

Ohio Mayor Vetoes Tax

NEWARK, O., Sept. 3.—Mayor Jame E. Neighbor has vetoed Newark Cit Council's three per cent admission ta branding it "illegal legislation." Th Mayor said that the ordinance was ir consistent with Ohio's general code.

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THERE'S A GOLD MINE IN "DEEP VALLEY"!

ITS FIGURES
ARE AMONG
THE 5 LEADING
ALL-TIME TOP GROSSERS
AT WARNERS'
N.Y. STRAND!

IDA LUPINO · DANE CLARK · WAYNE MORRIS in **"DEEP VALLEY"**

ith FAY BAINTER • HENRY HULL • Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO • Produced by HENRY BLANKE

Screen Play by Salka Viertel and Stephen Morehouse Avery
From the Novel by Dan Totheroh • Music by Max Steiner

Puts Product Charge In Ads for Public

Philadelphia, Sept. 3.—Film advertisements, definitely off the beaten track for this city, are appearing in local papers this week.

Yesterday an ad inserted by William Goldman Theatres for the Erlanger read: "This theater will open as soon as suitable and appropriate attractions are made available to us."

This is of particular interest in view of the recent Goldman anti-trust suit involving the Erlanger and its inability to obtain acceptable first-run films.

Rites for A. A. Rose In New York Today

Funeral services for Arthur A. Rose, 65, unit production manager at M-G-M, who died in Hollywood on Aug. 26, will be held here today at the Park West Memorial Chapel. Interment will be at Hungarian Union Fields Cemetery, Brooklyn.

Rose had been with M-G-M since the company's formation in 1924. Previously he had worked at the old Metro studio in Hollywood. Survivors include two sisters, Mrs. Esther Sargoy and Mrs. Sarah Schweitzer, and two brothers.

Eleanor Harris Dies

PITTSBURGH, Sept. 3.—Eleanor M. Harris, mother of John H. Harris, circuit operator, died here yesterday. She was the widow of the late Senator John P. Harris, theatre pioneer and founder of the Harris Amusement companies. Mrs. Harris held an honorary membership in Variety Clubs International.

New Altec Amplifier

A new Altec amplifier is now available, announces Altec Lansing Corp.

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Review

"Dark Passage"

(Warner Brothers)

HUMPHREY BOGART and Lauren Bacall starring together again will be welcome news for many a customer as well as a persuasive marquee event. The vehicle afforded them is a sinewy cops-and-killer story that builds up cumulative suspense, is studded with forceful characterizations, and unfolds against a background of vigorous photographic realism.

The screenplay of Delmer Daves, who also directed, has Bogart, innocently convicted for the murder of his wife, breaking out of San Quentin. After overcoming a few get-away obstacles, he has the fortunate luck of meeting up with Miss Bacall, a well-to-do girl who comes to his aid because of a striking similarity between his conviction and that of her father, also innocently imprisoned. With the financial help of Miss Bacall and a chance meeting with a friendly cab driver, Bogart is able to have his face completely changed through plastic surgery. There then follows a relentless two-way manhunt as the police close in on Bogart and he presses for his vindication by the detection of the real killer. When he eventually finds the killer, a spurned woman who murdered out of jealousy and hate, she plunges out of a window and thus removes Bogart's only hope of proving his innocence. Trapped in the web of circumstance, Bogart sets out for a South American village where he is rejoined by Miss Bacall.

Both principals turn in worthwhile performances, aided by excellent support from Agnes Moorehead, the neurotic murderess; Bruce Bennett, a suitor; Tom D'Andrea, the cab driver; and Clifton Young, a petty thief and blackmailer. A Jerry Wald production, adapted from the David Goodis novel, it utilizes in the earlier sequences the technique of having Bogart's face unrevealed on the screen. While the film is a generally engrossing tale, there are those who might be vexed by some of the more gruesome scenes as well as the plot's frequent reliance on strained coincidence.

Running time, 106 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date Sept. 27.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Price - Cutting Town Likes 'Years' @ $1.20

"The Best Years of Our Lives" grossed $2,130 in three days, Tuesday through Thursday, at Newburyport, Mass., the town that led a price reduction move last spring. Newburyport isn't cutting prices any longer. "Years" played at $1.20.

By comparison, "Kid from Brooklyn," another Samuel Goldwyn picture, played Newburyport on a four-day engagement, Wednesday through Saturday, at 85 cents and grossed $1,452.

Cantor Gets Award

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 3.—Eddie Cantor tonight received the 1947 award presented by the United Jewish Appeal for "humanitarian service" in behalf of the relief, rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish survivors in Europe.

The presentation was made on behalf of Henry Morgenthau, Jr., general chairman of the UJA, by Barney Balaban, president of Paramount and head of the UJA film division, at a dinner in the Bellevue Stratford Hotel.

54 Killed in Fire

PARIS, Sept. 3.—Approximately 54 persons were believed burned to death when a motion-picture theatre in the Paris suburb of Reuil was destroyed by fire. Police said 34 bodies had been taken from the gutted Select Theatre and about 20 more were believed still in the wreckage. A short circuit in the wiring of the second balcony of the house started the fire, police said. Balcony supports collapsed.

Legion Drive

A drive to raise funds for a new building here has been launched by the Capt. Charles B. Dillingham Theatrical Post No. 1605, American Legion, with Jack Haley, stage-screen star, accepting the first ticket. The post plans to give away a five-room house at the completion of the drive in Christmas.

White and Shafer Buy Four More Theatres

CINCINNATI, Sept. 3.—A new company organized here by Maurice White, Nick Shafer and others has taken over the Shard, Emery, Monte Vista and Ridge theatres, suburban units of the Kinsler-Shard Circuit. White and Shafer are interested in several other circuits. Kinsler, who was Warner branch manager before entering exhibition, will retire from the business. The four houses previously were operated by the late Elmer Shard.

Michigan Exhibitors Hit ASCAP's Boost

DETROIT, Sept. 3.—Representatives of some 300 Michigan theatres have chosen a committee of eight to report on ways and means of fighting the ASCAP theatre rate boost. The meeting was presided over by Jack Stewart, general manager of Allied Theatres of Michigan.

A report of the committee will be acted on at a Sept. 10 meeting.

Cites O'Dwyer for Aid

Slashing at Hollywood rumors that New York City as a production center for motion pictures offers a host of problems, David Hempstead, producer of "Portrait of Jennie" for David O. Selznick, told Mayor William O'Dwyer at City Hall, here, that the latter's understanding of production problems and help in effecting their solution were singular in the film industry. Cast and crew of "Portrait of Jennie" spent five months in New York and environs.

N.Y.C. Film Meet Today

Edward C. Maguire, New York City coordinator for film production, will meet at City Hall, here, today with industry representatives, as previously reported, in connection with the city's program for increasing production activity in New York.

SAG Warns Members On Signing Contracts

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 3.—In a report mailed by the Screen Actors Guild to members, actors are warned against signing contracts with producers who have not signed SAG contracts. Meanwhile, SAG has announced that its annual election of officers has been postponed from this month to Nov. 16.

The report also revealed an agreement in producer contracts, negotiated by a special SAG committee, wit[illegible] Screen Directors Guild and the S[illegible] Writers Guild concurring, that all Negro parts be enacted by Negroes, that the Negro "will be portrayed on the screen as a normal member of the community (and) will not be portrayed as a caricature," and that "thought will be given to casting Negroes in routine, unnamed bits in scripts, such as gas station attendants, elevator operators, etc."

SOPEG, SPG To Hold Press Parley Today

The Screen Publicists Guild and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild will hold a joint press conference here today to announce a program to deal with local industry layoffs.

A joint membership meeting was held here last week at which recommendations made by the Guild's leaders were adopted. The recommendations will be made public today.

Operators Continue Contract Talks Here

Negotiations between representatives of New York projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, and Loew's, RKO, Warners, Paramount and Universal will be resumed here today.

A union spokesman said that a strike vote meeting is still slated for Sept. 17, at Manhattan Center here. The local had originally voted to strike beginning on Labor Day, but postponed the strike because of progress made in last-minute negotiations.

Rank Units File Denial

The J. Arthur Rank organization, J. Arthur Rank and other defendants, in answers filed here yesterday in Federal Court, denied all allegations in connection with the suit brought against them by Empire-Universal Films and United World Pictures of Canada for specific performance of a distribution deal for Canada and Newfoundland. One of the defendants, General Cinema Finance Corp., in its answer, contended that the court lacks jurisdiction because the corporation does not conduct business in New York State, and asked for a dismissal of the suit.

BEWARE!

By the touch of his pencil, Cinderella is transformed . . .

EVEN before she speaks or moves . . . she has put across the character she plays—thanks to the creative pencil of the costume designer.

With it he has touched fabrics and fashions . . . transformed Cinderella . . . given eloquent expression to the role she portrays.

Through artistry such as this, the costume designer has done much to heighten the color, the realism, the drama of the "movie."

And his important contribution has been—and continues to be—all the more effective because of faithful photographic reproduction of the costumes he creates . . . through the industry's extensive use of the large and versatile family of Eastman motion picture films.

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Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PHILADELPHIA

The holiday weekend helped box-office considerably in first-run houses, with "Life with Father," "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer," "Crossfire" and "Desert Fury" out in front. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 2-4:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross. $32,500. (Average: $27,000)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $13,800)

DESERT FURY (U-I)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $9,500)

DUST BE MY DESTINY and MARKED WOMAN (WB reissues) — EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $31,700)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,700)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $41,500. (Average at regular prices: $21,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,000)

ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $6,600)

THEY WERE SISTERS and MICHIGAN KID (U-I)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,200)

THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $32,500. (Average: $29,500)

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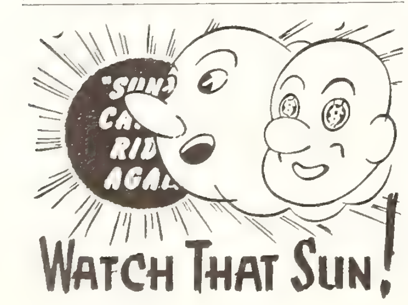

WATCH THAT SUN!

INDIANAPOLIS

The long holiday week-end accompanied by good weather, was generally good for business. "Variety Girl" is strong, and "Dear Ruth" is holding up well in its second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 2-3:

ALEXANDER'S RAGTIME BAND (20th-Fox reissue) and WESTERN UNION (20th-Fox reissue)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $4,500)

BRUTE FORCE (U-I) and CODE OF WEST (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (E-L)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $6,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and ADVENTURES OF DON COYOTE (UA)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.) — INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,000)

PITTSBURGH

"Life with Father" continued to smash all records for the Warner Theatre, registering $30,000 on its second week to follow an outstanding $40,000 for its opener. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 4:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,700)

CORSICAN BROTHERS (Eagle-Lion) and SOUTH OF PAGO PAGO (Eagle-Lion)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from the Penn. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,200)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $8,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

Neighborhood Runs

(*Continued from page 1*)

a few special areas have been hit a little harder. The West Coast, for instance, where abnormal wartime employment has leveled off along with take-home pay, shows the biggest falling off in theatre business.

The swing to neighborhood attendance is looked upon by circuit executives as a sign that box office prices have reached a real resistance level and presage some adjustments unless still more high quality product comes along.

Bergman on Ballyhoo

(*Continued from page 1*)

at their regional meeting at the Hotel Syracuse here today.

Bergman discussed the necessity for a better balance between ballyhoo and public relations in the industry.

The industry is now minded to look to theatres for the primary job, Bergman pointed out. He said that circuits particularly are in a position to consolidate public relations.

Special emphasis was placed on the revised Advertising Code of the Motion Picture Association. Bergman stressed the necessity of unaffiliated circuits falling in line by keeping their advertising "honest and respectable."

Discussing public relations, Bergman said, "It is impossible to have a great picture every week, but it is not impossible to sell the idea that movies are still the public's best and cheapest entertainment."

In appealing to theatremen to recapture the old industry ideas of showmanship, Bergman posed four questions to the managers: have they done many things in the way of ballyhoo and promotion to make their theatre more interesting than the grocery store, the department store or the bowling alley?; have they done anything to let their patrons know that the theatre is trying to make them more comfortable?; have they handled their advertising in such a way that they have actually tried to sell pictures for all they're worth?; and have they tried to make the atmosphere of their theatre inviting to the patrons?

Bergman pointed out that most have lost sight of the fact that the parade is just as important as the circus and that ballyhoo is just as important as the show.

Equipment Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

ident of the Board of Commissioners of Washington, Neu and Colvin, will give addresses of welcome. Short business sessions will be held on Thursday and Friday when both associations will elect officers for the next two years.

An open meeting, followed by a question-and-answer period, will feature Saturday's activities. Such subjects as multiple enterprise amusement centers, drive-in theatres, prefabricated theatres and television will be discussed. There will be talks by J. H. Van Deventer, of the Committee for Economic Development, and M. A. Watson of the Institute of Carpet Manufacturers of America. At the conclusion of these talks the meeting will be turned into an open forum and Alan E. Williford will act as moderator.

Theatre owners, architects and projectionists are invited, besides manufacturers and theatre supply dealers.

Elizabeth Day Wagner is chairman of the ladies entertainment committee and will be assisted by Mrs. Neu and Mrs. N. D. Golden.

Cut 'Reckless Lady'

CHICAGO, Sept. 3.—Dezel Roadshows' "Reckless Lady," which was banned by the Chicago Censor Board in July, has been approved by the board for adult showing only, after considerable cutting.

10 Completed, Five Start at Coast Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 3.—The production graph dipped as 10 were sent to cutting tables and only five got started before cameras, making the shooting score 35 as compared to 40 in the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Rose of Santa Rosa," "The Sign of the Ram."
Shooting: "A Little Spanish Town," "Glamour Girl," "Blondie's Anniversary."

Eagle-Lion

Started: "Prelude to Night," with Zachary Scott, Louis Hayward, Diana Lynn, Sydney Greenstreet, Edith Barrett, Claire Carleton.
Finished: "T-Man."
Shooting: "Northwest Stampede," "Enchanted Valley" (Jack Schwarz Productions), "Open Secret," "Tornado Range."

M-G-M

Started: "Homecoming," with Clark Gable, Lana Turner, John Hodiak, Anne Baxter.
Finished: "The High Wall."
Shooting: "Luxury Liner," "On an Island with You."

Monogram

Started: "The Man From Powder River," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Christine McIntyre.
Shooting: "The Quest of Willie Hunter," "The Red Hornet" (Charlie Chan), "Rocky."

Paramount

Finished: "My Own True Love."
Shooting: "The Paleface."

Republic

Shooting: "Slippy McGee."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Under Arizona Skies," "Roughshod."
Shooting: "I Remember Mama," "The Miracle of the Bells," "Station West," "Good Sam," "Berlin Express" (On location in Germany), "Race Street," "Rachel."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Finished: "Gentleman's Agreement," "Green Grass of Wyoming."
Shooting: "The Snake Pit."

United Artists

Shooting: Untitled Hopalong Cassidy.

Universal-International

Finished: "River Lady."
Shooting: "The Naked City" (Hellinger), "Mortal Coils," "A Double Life" (Kanin).

Warners

Started: "Christopher Blake," with Alexis Smith, Robert Douglas, Ted Donaldson. "April Showers," with Jack Carson, Ann Sothern, Bobby Ellis.

Independent

Shooting: "War Party" (Argosy), "The Tender Years" (Alson).

Import Ban Report Denied in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 3. — Reports emanating from New York that the Mexican government is considering restricting imports of American and other foreign films, presumably to stem the considerable flow of money from Mexico, has surprised both Government circles and Film Row.

Government sources denied that any such action is even contemplated, intimating that such restrictions would be indeed short-sighted because American pictures command more than 90 per cent of screen time in Mexico. Films are Mexicans' favorite diversion. As the government obtains much revenue from taxes on theatres' gross —an average of 15 per cent, plus import duties on films—it would be considered killing the "goose of the golden eggs" to include pictures in the long list of articles, importation of which are banned, on the ground that they are luxuries.

Film Row, agreeing with these intimations in government circles, indicates expectancy of a strengthening of the move already started to reduce screen time for U. S. and other foreign pictures. The local municipal government recently asked exhibitors to play Mexican pictures at least one week a month. The strengthening expectancy of that move is the anticipation that the new Congress will enact a law for passage of which there has been a long clamor by nationalists—to make mandatory throughout Mexico the annual exhibition of Mexican films for at least 26 weeks. Those favoring such forced exhibition contend that it is the only way to enable the Mexican film industry to survive progressively keener competition from American and some other foreign pictures, mostly British, Argentinian and French.

Avert Mexico Strike

(Continued from page 1)

under which a 20 per cent wage increase has been granted. The strike had been scheduled to go into effect on Sept. 6.

The agreement will run until August, 1949. Companies involved include: Universal-International, RKO Radio, Warner Brothers, M-G-M, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia and Paramount.

Exhibitors, although pleased with the settlement, are still worried by the union's wage requests, served on 15 distributors of Mexican and foreign pictures other than American. They hope the peace pact signed by the American companies will serve as a guide for other negotiations.

The
SPIRIT
STILL
LIVES!

Dalton Tax

(Continued from page 1)

lion pounds annually ($20,000,000). Six months ago those same advisers (as reported at the time from this bureau) put the nation's reasonable American film pocket-money at 10 million pounds ($40,000,000). They claim that the unanticipated upsurge in prices of American food and raw materials and the increasing dollar shortage completely upset their budget's applecart. The enormous sum of 144 million pounds ($576,000,000) was abruptly lopped from the arranged expenditure on American food. By a similar process, 11 million pounds ($44,000,000) was knocked off the amount which normally would have proceeded to America as film-hire, the bureaucratic arthmeticians thereby arriving at the permitted figure of four million pounds ($16,000,000). A take-it-or-leave-it attitude was adopted here, matched promptly by realistic action in America.

Ostensibly, stiff-necked refusal to negotiate persists on this side—cabled advices from America suggest likewise that Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association head, so far has failed to persuade agreement between MPA members and independent producers—but back-stage talks are said to have gone a considerable distance towards resolving the deadlock.

Nelson Returns to Desk; Would Represent SIMPP at Tax Talks

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 3.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has returned to his desk following convalescence from at illness. It is understood that he will represent SIMPP next month in London at conferences on the British import tax, if the projected meetings, in which Eric Johnston would represent the Motion Picture Association, materialize.

Allied Rejects Bid

(Continued from page 1)

on the matter of taking over the presidency, none has expressed willingness to accept, it is understood. A standout candidate in the minds of both ATA and MPTOA principals is said to be Mitchell Wolfson, Florida circuit operator, but he already has rejected the idea.

Another convention-planning meeting is to be held here today with Si Fabian, ATA president; Herman Levy, MPTOA counsel, and Coyne participating.

While TOA's operational plans are of course a matter for the convention to decide, it is clearly understood that upon its ratification the new organization will give immediate consideration to the increased music performing license rates planned by Ascap.

U. A. Production

(Continued from page 1)

is to be for world-wide distribution, the company stated.

Other action taken by the board included an order directing a 25 per cent saving in all UA operations. A good deal of the economy program already has been put into effect. The board meeting was adjourned to Sept. 12.

Form Mexican Distributor

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 3.—Francia Films de Mexico has been formed here for the distribution of French pictures, by Manual Trilli, Enrique Fienert and Antonio Villela.

Urge Egypt Alter Remittance Rule

WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—Strong efforts are being made to induce the Egyptian government to withdraw its ruling that only 50 per cent of the net receipts from U. S. films there can be remitted to America, a Commerce Department report issued here yesterday disclosed.

Meanwhile, the Commerce Department said, the Egyptian motion picture industry continued in a depression during the first half of 1947, and it is now "seriously doubted" whether as many as 60 feature films will be produced during the current motion picture year ending Sept. 30, compared with a minimum of 100 hoped for at the start of the year.

The report lists three factors as retarding the development of Egypt's industry: Disappointing box-office returns on films which had been expected to draw large audiences; a further general decline in attendance for economic reasons as a result of increasing unemployment following withdrawal of British troops; a tendency to stay away from films following the bombing of a large Cairo theatre early in May.

U. S. distributors are quoted as estimating attendance during the first six months of this year as 40 per cent below the 1946 first-half figures.

Union Heads Accept

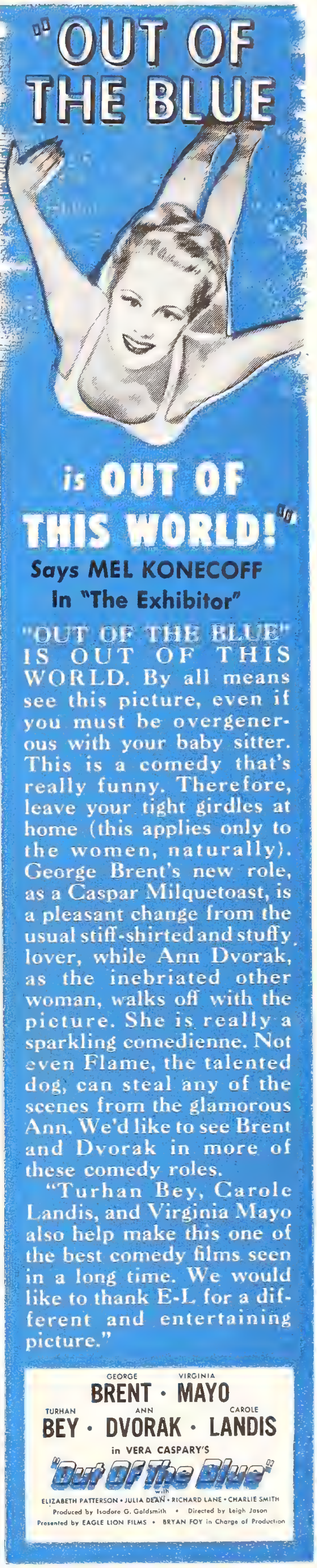
(Continued from page 1)

liam Hutcheson, painters' president L. P. Lindelof and IATSE president Richard Walsh have accepted the invitation, he said.

The announcement, climaxing the final day's hearing, followed a dramatic disclosure by Herbert K. Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, who previously asserted that he had been offered $56,000 "several years ago" for obtaining approval of an employment contract from the painters' union membership, that Willie Bioff was the man who had offered him the money "in Pat Casey's office after Casey had been sent from the room." Sorrell, who previously had declined to reveal the individual, was recalled to the stand and persuaded to make the revelation after news dispatches had indicated that a producer or producer representative had offered the bribe.

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount studio executive, testifying as a member of the producers' labor committee which conferred with IATSE representative Roy Brewer just before the outbreak of the present strike, explained the studios "were faced with a dilemma" at the time. Asserting that he favored closing down the studios, Freeman added that the committee, after being assured by Brewer that IATSE would supply the necessary workers, decided to remain open.

Kearns, who broadcast a commentary on the hearings tonight over the American Broadcasting Co. network, flew to San Francisco en route to Chicago. He said that the subcommittee's attorney, Irving McCann, was compiling a report for the House Labor committee, and indicated that witnesses may be called to Washington for further testimony.


"OUT OF THE BLUE is OUT OF THIS WORLD!"

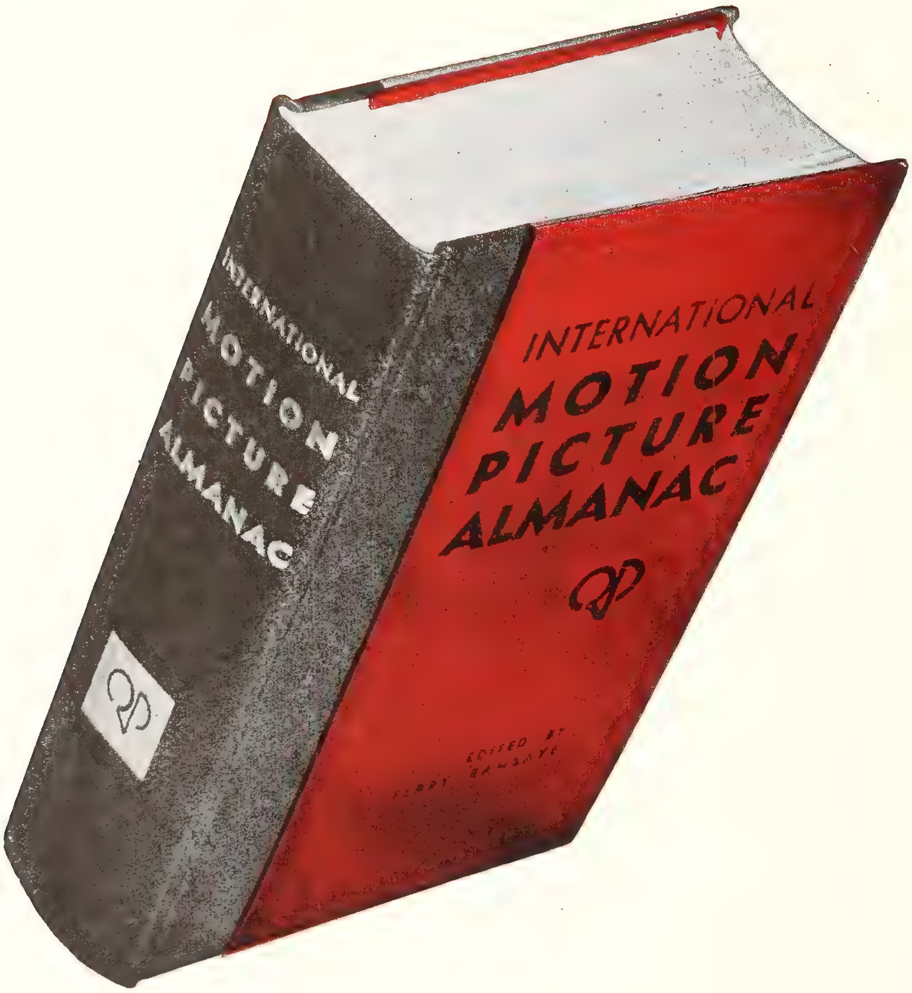
Says MEL KONECOFF In "The Exhibitor"

"OUT OF THE BLUE" IS OUT OF THIS WORLD. By all means see this picture, even if you must be overgenerous with your baby sitter. This is a comedy that's really funny. Therefore, leave your tight girdles at home (this applies only to the women, naturally). George Brent's new role, as a Caspar Milquetoast, is a pleasant change from the usual stiff-shirted and stuffy lover, while Ann Dvorak, as the inebriated other woman, walks off with the picture. She is really a sparkling comedienne. Not even Flame, the talented dog, can steal any of the scenes from the glamorous Ann. We'd like to see Brent and Dvorak in more of these comedy roles.

"Turhan Bey, Carole Landis, and Virginia Mayo also help make this one of the best comedy films seen in a long time. We would like to thank E-L for a different and entertaining picture."

GEORGE BRENT · VIRGINIA MAYO
TURHAN BEY · ANN DVORAK · CAROLE LANDIS
in VERA CASPARY'S
"Out Of The Blue"
with
ELIZABETH PATTERSON • JULIA DEAN • RICHARD LANE • CHARLIE SMITH
Produced by Isodore G. Goldsmith • Directed by Leigh Jason
Presented by EAGLE LION FILMS • BRYAN FOY in Charge of Production

WORLD-WIDE



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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK 18,
N. Y. (2 COPIES)

VOL. 62. NO. 47 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1947 TEN CENTS

$25,000,000 Credit for 20th Century

Company Immediately Borrows $5,000,000

Twentieth Century-Fox will file today with the Securities and Exchange Commission in Philadelphia a proxy statement pertaining to the right to borrow all or any part of $25,000,000 under a credit agreement executed here yesterday with a group of banks headed by Chase National Bank and including Bankers Trust, Bank of America, Manufacturers Trust, Chemical Bank and Trust, and Commercial National Bank and Trust. It is one of the biggest financial arrangements of its kind in many years n this industry.

The proxy statement is directed to prior preferred stockholders whose majority consent is necessary to per-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Fabian Balks At Price Rise

Fabian Theatres, one of the largest independent circuits in the East, has taken a definite stand against increased admission price pictures in reecting "Best Years of Our Lives" for its Class 'A' houses and indications are the circuit might shun all tilted admission product in the fuure.

Si Fabian and Sam Rosen, owners of the circuit, will determine a set policy following a study of product and the distributors' licensing terms. Both Fabian and Rosen are known

(*Continued on page 4*)

Byrnes to Coast on Un-American Probe

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Industry counsel James F. Byrnes will leave here for Hollywood next Wednesday to discuss industry problems with West Coast top film officials and make preliminary preparations for presentng the industry's case to the House Un-American Activities Committee, t was announced here today by the Motion Picture Association. The ormer U. S. Secretary of State is

(*Continued on page 2*)

Full Production Urged by BFPA

LONDON, Sept. 4.—Following a meeting of the British Film Producers Association, Sir Henry French, director general, reported prolonged discussion on the effect of the Dalton tax and said the association felt that implementation of the desired increase in British production was a function of individual producers rather than the association itself. The association accordingly confined its decisions to a recommendation that producers put their existing facilities to the utmost use, but warned producers they would make a grave mistake to sacrifice present quality for quantity.

Pressed to explain this "milk-and-water" pronouncement of the BFPA policy on a matter of utmost gravity,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Congressmen Will Probe Films Abroad

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Members of a special joint Congressional committee will leave here for Europe tomorrow for a month's on-the-spot examination of the State Department's overseas information program, including the motion picture phase.

Sen. Smith, co-chairman of the group with Rep. Mundt, has been especially outspoken in favor of greater emphasis on motion pictures in the program.

The committee, composed of five senators and seven representatives, will cover 20 countries in 33 days. Visits have been arranged by the

(*Continued on page 2*)

Studio Wages Up, Employment Down

Hollywood, Sept. 4.—California State Labor Board reports that the average weekly earnings of hourly workers in studios here reached the all-time high of $109.87 in July, although the number employed was down 20 per cent during a production lull.

SOPEG, SPG Win 1st Reinstatements

The Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and the Screen Publicists Guild have started to make headway in their campaign to win back jobs for discharged home office employes.

After negotiations with United Artists representatives, SOPEG gained the reinstatement of several employes, and is continuing its efforts to win further reinstatements elsewhere. In their fight against layoffs, SPG and SOPEG will hold a joint meeting with IATSE locals here next week to study the problem.

News of the reinstatements was revealed here yesterday at joint press conference of SPG and SOPEG, at which recommendations to combat the layoffs were made public. The recommendations include: placing of advertisements in papers to tell the unions' story of the layoffs; allocating a "substantial sum" for the advertisements and for other publicity; continuation of joint demonstrations in front of home offices; neighborhood

(*Continued on page 4*)

O'Dwyer, Company Heads To Talk NYC Production

Film company presidents will be invited by New York's Mayor William O'Dwyer to a City Hall conference in connection with the city's current program for expanding production here, Edward C. Maguire, city coordinator for film production, admitted yesterday following his meeting with industry representatives. The presidents' conference, which will form part of the pattern of Maguire's coordinating activities, might possibly be held before the Mayor leaves for a Mexican tour on Sept. 14, he said.

Because of the "responsible cooperation" which has been extended by the industry, New York City is "right now" in a position to become a major film producing center, Maguire said, adding that so much progress has been made already toward the "streamlining" of production operations here that he forsees his being able to clean up his work as coordinator in about two months. "We are now ready, able and willing to take on location shooting," he said, pointing out that producers can get all the space they may want here for studio building.

Yesterday's meeting resulted in the formation of a special industry advisory committee which will henceforth join Maguire in all "production expediting" conferences which he will hold with city department executives. First of such conferences will be held at City Hall on Monday with the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Clift Seeking Support of New U.K. Plan

Briton Suggests 33 1/3% Tax and Equal Freeze

Sir Sidney Clift, British circuit operator and former president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association, London, said here yesterday he intends to visit all top film executives here to promote his proposal of an alternative to the British *ad valorem* duty by which film remittances to the U. S. would be taxed 33 and one-third per cent, 33 and one-third would be "frozen," and the remainder free.

Clift said he originally intended his visit here to be a vacation but because of the utter seriousness of the tax matter he decided to try "to help out." He said he already has discussed his ideas with Spyros P. Skouras, presi-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Theatres in UA's UK Plan

United Artists intends to align British theatre interests in its program of production in England, thus the benefits of the plan would be two-fold: first, by the association, UA would have new, guaranteed outlets for the product of its U. S. producers, and secondly, of course, films made there would be unaffected by continuation of the British *ad valorem* duty or any compromise arrangement.

The UA board on Wednesday gave Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president and foreign operations head, formal approval to continue his devel-

(*Continued on page 4*)

SMPE Sets Ten Engineering Panels

Ten sessions on theatre engineering will be on the program of the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania here.

A group of experts will speak on various aspects of theatre engineering, with two-thirds of the time left open to participation from the floor.

The theatre engineering conference

(*Continued on page 4*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT YATES, Republic president, left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

VINCENT LIGUORI of RKO Theatres publicity department, will be married to ELAINE POLS tomorrow evening at the Bancroft Hotel here.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, are due back here today from Boston.

•

C. A. SMAKWITZ, Warner Theatres assistant zone manager in Albany, N. Y., has returned there from a vacation.

•

HAL WALLIS, his wife and their son will leave here today for Hollywood.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will leave the Coast today for New York.

•

IRVING ASHER, M-G-M producer, and his wife will leave here today by plane for the Coast.

•

NATHAN LEVINSON, Warner studio sound department chief, is due here this weekend from Hollywood.

•

SID KAIN, Warner field public relations man, left here yesterday for Lexington, Ky.

•

BERT GRANET, RKO Radio producer, returned here yesterday from France and Germany.

•

R. M. SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

GEORGE CUKOR, M-G-M director, is in town from California.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Monogram producer, is visiting here from the Coast

Krugman Is Named SRO District Chief

Sol Krugman has been appointed district sales manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization covering the Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh territories, by Milton S. Kusell, SRO vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales.

Krugman replaces E. J. Fontaine, who has been promoted to Eastern division manager. Prior to his new SRO position, Krugman was special sales representative for Samuel Goldwyn.

EK Promotes Zornow

Appointment of Gerald B. Zornow as assistant manager of Eastman Kodak's New York branch was announced by James E. McGhee, general sales manager. A native of Pittsford, N. Y., and graduate of the University of Rochester, Zornow joined Kodak in 1937.

M-G-M Coast Meet To Close Tomorrow

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—M-G-M sales executives' meetings at the Ambassador Hotel here and at the Culver City studios will close on Saturday, when home office assistants to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, and field sales managers will leave here for their headquarters in New York and in the field.

During the six-day meeting, sales policy on at least 10 top pictures to be released within the next five months were discussed. In addition, screenings were held of: "Green Dolphin Street," "Desire Me," "Good News," "Summer Holiday," "Birds and the Bees," "Cass Timberlane," "If Winter Comes," "This Time for Keeps."

CSU Meet Sunday To Air House Probe

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—While the Conference of Studio Unions called a mass membership meeting for Sunday night for a report on the House Labor subcommittee's hearings which ended yesterday, Congressman Carroll D. Kearns disclosed yesterday that he would withhold publication of a summation of his findings in order not to influence the meeting Sunday in Chicago of international presidents of unions involved in the studio strike.

Richard Walsh, IATSE; L. P. Lindelof, painters' union, and William Hutcheson, carpenters' brotherhood, have accepted an invitation from Kearns to confer at the Drake Hotel in Chicago on Sunday with a view toward ironing out the jurisdictional dispute. Hollywood labor circles interpreted Hutcheson's acceptance as the brightest indication to date that the year-old strike is near settlement.

ATA, MPTOA Invite Mills to D. C. Meet

A joint invitation is to be issued to E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, by American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America to attend the Washington meeting of the two organizations, Sept. 19-20, to discuss a proposal for Mills to lead the organizations' opposition to the increased music taxes announced by Ascap, Herman Levy of MPTOA and Robert Coyne of ATA said here yesterday.

Mills said he had not received the invitation and declined to say in advance whether he would accept.

D. of J. Gets Ascap's Consent Decree Plan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Justice Department officials revealed here today that they have "under consideration" the text of a consent decree proposed by Ascap to settle the U. S. suit against the Society's international pacts.

The proposed consent decree was formally delivered to the Department by Ascap officials yesterday. Justice spokesmen indicated it would be a week or more before the Department would make a decision on the proposal.

Byrnes to Coast

(Continued from page 1)

slated to leave by plane at 3 A.M., accompanied by Joyce O'Hara and Edward Cheyfitz. MPA president Eric Johnston was originally scheduled to go with Byrnes treatment for bursitis.

MPA officials said they expected Byrnes would discuss the production trade practice code he is supposed to be drawing up and the general foreign situation, but that his chief attention will be devoted to the industry's defense before the House committee, which begins hearings here late this month.

Byrnes has made it plain again that he will not personally appear before any Congressional committee, the MPA pointing out that one of Byrnes' chief reasons for taking the industry post was his interest in preserving freedom of expression, and that it was his view while it is all right for the investigation to probe Communism, freedom of expression must not be crippled in the process.

No definite time limit has been put on Byrnes' West Coast stay, nor any definite appointment schedule drawn up.

It was indicated that to date little work has been done on the trade practice code, which is still in the discussion stage. Meanwhile, MPA officials said Johnston's ailment was proving exceedingly painful and unresponsive to treatment, and that the MPA president will have to be in the hospital "a little longer" than the week originally planned.

Probe Films Abroad

(Continued from page 1)

State Department for Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Hungary, and 16 other countries, but not for Jugoslavia, Rumania, or the Soviet Union.

Committee officials have been investigating the New York and Washington offices of the cultural program for the past month, and a committee spokesman said one report would be made on the domestic and foreign operations.

Bela Black, 71

Bela Black, 71, president of Danubia Pictures, film importers, died yesterday while vacationing at the Balsams, N. H. He is survived by a niece, Mrs. Joseph Bernhard, wife of the president of Film Classics. Funeral services will be held at 11 A.M. Sunday at Riverside Memorial Chapel here.

'IA'-Pathe Meeting

After a session at which no progress was reported, representatives of the Motion Picture Home Office Employes local No. H-63, IATSE, and Pathe Laboratories will meet here again on Tuesday to discuss a contract for some 40 employes.

Para. Club to Elect

Election of officers for the 1947-1948 term will be held by the Paramount Pictures Club at its annual meeting in the company's home office next Tuesday evening.

Two Philco Dividends

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 4.—A regular quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on Philco Corporation's common stock, payable Sept. 12 to stockholders of record tomorrow, has been declared by the board of directors, which also declared a regular quarterly dividend of 93¾ cents per share on preferred stock, 3¾ per cent series A, payable Oct. 1, to holders of record on Sept. 15.

Loew's Dividend

Directors of Loew's, Inc., have declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on common stock, payable on Sept. 30 to holders of record on Sept. 13.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI BWAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE BWAY & 45
ON SCREEN 1st N. Y. Showing! 'BLACK GOLD' IN CINECOLOR ANTHONY QUINN
IN PERSON ED SULLIVAN HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
MONICA LEWIS
Extra! Paul WINCHELL

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
"Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person! CARMEN CAVALLARO And His Orchestra BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATU NIGHTLY

BETTY GRABLE . DAN DAILEY
"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE
JACK HALEY . ELLA LOGAN
Extra: JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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20th CENTURY-FOX

MAKES IT 4* WALLOPING
MONEY-GETTERS IN A ROW AS

* 'KISS OF DEATH' DOES

"ABSOLUTELY UNBELIEVABLE
BUSINESS—DON'T KNOW HOW
WE'RE GETTING THEM ALL IN!"—
Harry Brandt

* 'MIRACLE ON 34th STREET'

M. P. HERALD BOXOFFICE CHAMPION FOR JULY!

* 'I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW'

TECHNICOLOR

M. P. HERALD BOXOFFICE CHAMPION FOR AUGUST!

* 'MOTHER WORE TIGHTS'

TECHNICOLOR

R IS FOR THE **R**ECORDS SHE IS SETTING
AT THE ROXY, NEW YORK—AND IN BALTIMORE—
SAN DIEGO—MILWAUKEE—BRIDGEPORT
HARTFORD—NEW HAVEN—SYRACUSE!

O'Dwyer, Film Heads

(*Continued from page* 1)

police, water, gas, electric, housing and building commissioners. The special industry committee includes: W. D. Kelly, Loew's; Hal Hode, Columbia; L. E. Thompson, RKO; and Tom Mead and Gilbert Kurland, Universal-International.

Those representatives are also members of a permanent advisory committee to aid Maguire, which also was named at yesterday's meeting and includes also Edward C. Dowden, Loew's; Roy E. Hilten, United Artists; J. B. McCullough, Motion Picture Association; Joseph Moskowitz, 20th Century-Fox, and Frank N. Phelps, Warners. The special committee and Maguire will meet with other commissioners later.

It was established at yesterday's meeting, Maguire revealed, that hereafter when any production unit comes to New York for filming, procedure will be to contact a committee representative who, through Maguire, will arrange for the expediting of necessary permits for shooting.

SMPE Panels

(*Continued from page* 1)

will open on the morning of Oct. 20 with an introductory session, to be followed in the afternoon by a clinic on physical construction, which will include conventional, pre-fabricated and drive-in theatres. The evening session will be devoted to auditorium design.

The session of Oct. 21 will include floor covering and theatre television. Lighting will be discussed on Oct. 22, acoustics and theatre television on Oct. 23, and safety and maintenance, ventilation, air conditioning and promotional display on Oct. 24.

BEHOLD!
The Box Office SPIRIT
of the
"BIRTH of a NATION"
STILL
LIVES
TODAY!
in
"THE
BURNING
CROSS"
Distributed
by SCREEN GUILD Productions

$25,000,000 Credit

(*Continued from page* 1)

mit borrowings under the credit agreement in excess of $5,000,000.

In explaining the purpose of the credit agreement, the company reveals that it is presently indebted to the above banks under the credit agreement in the amount of $5,000,00 as permitted by its certificate of incorporation. This borrowing was also effected yesterday for general working capital purposes. Additional borrowings may be made from time to time as needed.

Any borrowings under the credit agreement will bear interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent per annum until Sept., 1949; one and three-quarter per cent until Sept., 1950, and thereafter at the rate of two per cent.

The board of directors of the company has fixed the close of business on Sept. 15 as the stock record date for the determination of the prior preferred holders who are to be solicited and to be entitled to express their consent or dissent.

At the close of business yesterday there were 89,388 shares of prior preferred stock outstanding. No meeting of the prior preferred holders will be held. Holders of prior preferred stock will be requested instead to express their consent in writing prior to Oct. 24.

UA Reinstatements

(*Continued from page* 1)

publicizing of the unions' position, and invoking the aid of the state CIO and possibly the national CIO at its convention next month.

Leon Roth, president of the SPG, disclosed that arbitration proceedings have been initiated with the American Arbitration Associaton in the case of the discharge of SPG members at 20th Century-Fox. Roth said that under the contract with 20th Century, either side can initiate arbitration in the case of a dispute, and that the SPG is charging violation of the contract clause governing discharges.

Both Roth and Sidney Young, president of SOPEG, said that under other clauses of their contracts, they were calling for a meeting of the industry labor panel, a joint union-management committee, to seek reinstatement of discharged employes. They also asserted that the layoffs would not cause either SPG or SOPEG to change their wage demands in forthcoming negotiations.

Fabian Balks at Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

to be strongly averse to raising admissions and if they find a large number of films requiring raised scales are to be forthcoming, the likelihood is said to be that all of them will be avoided completely by the circuit. "Best Years" played the circuit's less important houses only.

The circuit heads reason that a theatre operator, like a retail merchant, can be successful with only one policy on prices, either low, medium or high, and that any variation would be detrimental to commercial welfare.

Polio Forces Closings

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 4.—Theatres in Ontario, Ore., and in Malheur County have closed temporarily due to a heavy increase in infantile paralysis cases in the area.

Meet with British Not Turned Down

WASHINGTON, Sept. 4.—Officials of the Motion Picture Association said here today that the American members of the Joint Film Council had definitely not turned down an offer from British producers to meet on the British film tax, but merely asked that the conference be put off until the time when something could be accomplished by such a meeting. The MPA officials were asked to comment on London reports that the British request had been flatly rejected.

"Our feeling was that the whole thing is a matter of timing," one official said. "We want to find the time when we can really get everyone together and when we can really produce something from a meeting with the British." He pointed out that negotiations are still going on between the industry and the British government.

UA in England

(*Continued from page* 1)

opment of the project. Kelly, still in London, also is continuing negotiations with J. Arthur Rank executives in an effort to open up Rank's Odeon circuit, in which UA has a relatively small interest, to UA product. Yesterday, in London, he conferred with John Davis, general manager of the Rank enterprises.

Figuring prominently in the program are the owners of England's National Studios, where the pictures probably would be made. They are said to be particularly anxious to employ Hollywood stars and technicians. This aspect of the situation is contingent on the outcome of National executives' conferences with Lady Yule, in Bermuda, regarding financing. Lady Yule until recently had been active in British production.

Clift Seeking Support

(*Continued from page* 1)

dent of 20th Century-Fox, and Phil Reisman, RKO foreign chief. His planned conference with Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in Washington, has been postponed because of the latter's illness (bursitis).

Clift, widely recognized as an authority on the British industry, said neither Skouras nor Reisman committed themselves concerning his *ad valorem* alternate plan.

Meet on Australia Held at MPA Here

Foreign managers of the distributors' international companies met at the Motion Picture Association offices here yesterday to consider further the dollar problem in Australia and its relation to restrictions on film and other imports, in the light of the most recent cables exchanged between Gerald M. Mayer, chief of the In[illegible]tional division of the MPA and [illegible] McN'Ackland, representative of the Film Distributors Association in Australia.

Mayer said, "Our industry is the only one to date where negotiations are continuing with the Australian government in an effort to avoid either a limitation of imports or a tax on remittances."

At the meeting, the problem of dollar remittances from Denmark was discussed and Fayette W. Allport, MPA representative in London will go to Copenhagen on Monday.

Turnbull Implies Australia Will Follow U.K. Tax Lead

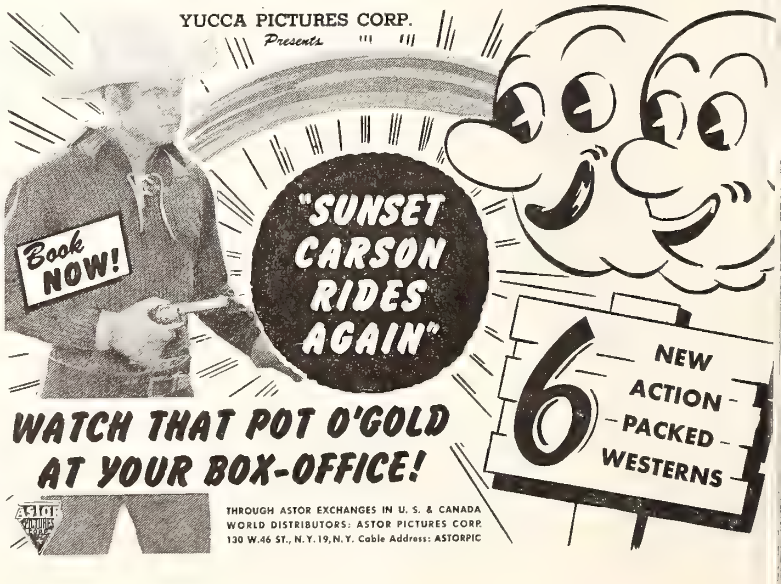
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 4.—Declining to discuss the possibility that Australia may follow the British pattern in taxing American films, Ernest Turnbull, managing director of Hoyt's Theatres, Australia, today said that "Although England and Australia are no longer bound by constitutional ties, England is Australia's principal customer for wool, meat, etc., and Australia is therefore disposed to do all it can to help England meet its dollar problem." He pointed out that Australian films are subject to the British tax, just as is America's product.

Urge Full Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

Sir Henry French said, "it is rather difficult to make suggestions to our members until we learn what arrangements have been made for film importation and until the tax position is clarified."

Questioned as to whether this admission meant he believed that the Dalton tax would shortly be amended, he replied "I wouldn't answer." He added that in due course his reasons for not answering would be appreciated. BFPA executives are known lately to have been in close conclave with British government officials.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VOL. 62. NO. 48 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1947 TEN CENTS

Studio Union Heads Seek Strike Peace

Conference Started in Chicago; Progress Seen

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—Heads of the international unions involved in the protracted Hollywood studio strike sat down together at the Drake Hotel here today in their first joint endeavor since their 1945 meeting in Cincinnati to resolve the jurisdictional disputes which gave rise to the strike.

At a late hour today, Richard Walsh, IATSE president; William Hutcheson, president of the Carpeners union, and L. P. Lindelof, Paintrs union president, still were closeted n the conference room, indicating that serious and exhaustive effort to reolve the jurisdiction differences which ave beset the Hollywood labor scene or many years was being made.

It was reported that in the event an greement is not reached tonight, the onferees may resume here tomorrow r adjourn for a few days and meet gain, possibly in the East.

Their meeting was undertaken at he invitation of Rep. Carroll Kearns, hairman of the House Labor subcommittee which recently completed three weeks of hearings in Hollywood on he studio strike. Kearns had warned he union heads involved in the strike hat if they did not get together and ndeavor to iron out their differences he subcommittee might go forward with plans to recommend to Congress ew legislation to further regulate nion affairs.

Guard Jurisdiction: IA' Aides to Walsh

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—IATSE president Richard F. Walsh was given a mandate by officials and business agents of all studio IATSE locals to protect IATSE jurisdiction" when conferring today in Chicago with L. P. Lindelof, Painters' union president; William Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters' union, and Cong. Carroll D. Kearns, chairman of the House Labor subcommittee. The special meeting of the IATSE executives Friday morning also approved Walsh's executive policies.

The meeting also heard an address y counsel Matthew Levey on application of the Taft-Hartley Law to ATSE affairs. Levey accompanied Walsh to Chicago.

W. Va. MPTO Urges MPTOA Name Be Kept

Indications that there may be a determined stand to retain the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America's name in the new organization which will emerge from the wedding of the MPTOA and American Theatres Association at their merger meeting in Washington Sept. 19-20 increased on Friday when it was announced that the MPTOA of West Virginia had approved the proposed merger but asked that the MPTOA label be preserved.

Similar action was taken recently by the MPTO of Oklahoma and it is known that there is considerable support for retention of the MPTOA name in other organizational quarters involved in the projected merger.

J. C. Shanklin, president of the MPTOA of West Virginia, an MP

(*Continued on page 7*)

Financial Obstacle In Promotion Plan

A serious threat to the contemplated all-out public relations campaign against unfair criticism of the industry has presented itself in the form of financial consideration, executives here say.

The project was formally approved by company presidents at a meeting at the Motion Picture Association here last week but allocation of funds was not decided upon and present in-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Preferred Time for 'Amber' Not 'Must'

While 20th Century-Fox expects, and is getting, preferred playing time on "Forever Amber," which is being sold on 50-50 deals at advanced admissions, such preferred playing time is not a requirement of any contract. So stated A. W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, over the weekend.

"We expect preferred playing time and are getting it. However, it is not a requirement. In fact, in many smaller situations an exhibitor's preferred time is mid-week, not on Saturdays and Sundays."

See Milder Building Code for Capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Approval by district commissioners of relaxation in provisions on new theatres contained in a proposed District of Columbia building and fire code appears certain following a hearing here at which no opposition to the relaxation was voiced. The commissioners must act within 30 days.

Changes were agreed upon a month ago by representatives of a citizens' committee and various district departments concerned. Spokesmen for the departments joined theatre owners at the hearing in urging the milder requirements.

Washington theatre owners, led by Julian Brylawski, pointed out that the victory was important not only in the direct effect it would have on new theatres but in the indirect impetus it would give their fight to obtain similar concessions in proposed revisions affecting existing structures.

British Tax Causes Drop To 32 US Films in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—A pattern for a temporary production policy in the face of the British tax began to emerge from a welter of executive utterances on general aspects of the situation when a MOTION PICTURE DAILY checkup of all studios revealed only 32 features in shooting stages.

This figure compares with 49 shooting at the time the tax was announced four weeks ago, and with 54, shooting this time last year.

Other causes, including uncertainties regarding the labor setup, had already slowed the production pace to less than 1946 tempo.

The sharp drop since shipments to England were halted is now generally attributed to a "watchful waiting" policy officially admitted by none, but widely credited to all. How long companies can hold up the volume of production and still make good on declarations that neither the quality nor the number of films will be cut is a ranking question in Hollywood professional circles this weekend.

TUC Backs a Plan to Boom UK Pictures

Endorses British Tax As Aid to Own Industry

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Sept. 7.—The Trades Union Congress, meeting at Southport, Lancashire, has unanimously approved a resolution from the Association of Cine-Technicians declaring that for cultural and economic reasons it is "vital" that Britain have its own strong film industry and not be dependent on America for 80 per cent of its film entertainment, with the consequent export of dollars.

In moving the resolution, George Elvin, ACT secretary, welcomed the

(*Continued on page 7*)

US Has Ascap 'Peace Plan'

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers has offered to dissolve its affiliations with its counterparts in 25 foreign countries as the basis for a consent decree settlement of the international cartel suit filed by the Department of Justice, it is understood here. The Justice Department in Washington last week confirmed that it had re-

(*Continued on page 6*)

To Use Only 'Pure' Ads for 'Outlaw' Here

An unqualified avoidance of sensationalism—to the exclusion even of such words as "daring" and "famed"—will mark the advertisements which United Artists will run in newspapers and on billboards in conjunction with the indefinite run of Howard Hughes'

(*Continued on page 6*)

4 Reviews Today

"The Corpse Came C.O.D." and "Along the Oregon Trail" are reviewed on page 6; "The Tawny Pipit" and "Robin Hood of Monterey" on page 7.

Personal Mention

HARRY GOETZ left here for the Coast at the weekend.

•

TOM GROGAN, who resigned recently as manager of the Parakos Strand Theatre, Thompsonville, Conn., to enter the automobile business, has returned to that post, replacing JOHN SCANLON, JR., who is on temporary leave.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, left New York yesterday for Pittsburgh where he will be joined by FRED MEYERS, Eastern division manager.

•

MURRAY KAPLAN, assistant to BEN SHECTMAN, head of Eagle-Lion's contract department, and MRS. KAPLAN have become parents of a daughter, RHONA.

•

WILLIAM W. BBUMBERG, manager of the Warner field public relations staff, will return here today from Cincinnati where he addressed the Schine Circuit convention.

•

EDMUND C. GRAINGER, JR., son of the Shea Enterprises president, and VIRGINIA ROCKE, daughter of MR. and MRS. ARTHUR ROCKE, became engaged last Saturday.

•

PAUL LUKAS, MERLE OBERON and ROBERT RYAN, RKO Radio stars, will arrive in New York aboard the *S. S. Queen Mary* tomorrow.

•

FRED N. POLANGIN, Eastern publicity director of Enterprise, and MRS. POLANGIN have become parents of a son, RICHARD F.

•

LES MARKOSKI, manager of the Music Box Theatre, New Britain, Conn., and MRS. MARKOSKI are parents of a daughter, TERESA.

•

KENNETH CLARK, Motion Picture Association public relations director, will return to his Washington headquarters today from the Coast.

•

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion general sales manager, will return to the home office today following weekend sales meetings in Chicago.

•

BURT GRANET, RKO Radio producer, who returned to New York at the weekend from Germany,. is en route to Hollywood.

•

WILLIAM WYLER and his wife are due back here tomorrow from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio publicity director, arrived in town from Hollywood at the weekend.

•

VERNON C. CALDWELL, Walt Disney Prod. public relations director, is due here today from the Coast.

•

HAROLD MIRISCH, Allied Artists vice-president, is in town from the Coast.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

OFFICIALS of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers assert that a number of exhibitors—unidentified—have signed and returned the new theatre music licenses, thus accepting Ascap's 300 per cent rate increase.

If this is true those exhibitors have done a great disservice to the body of American exhibitors.

Ascap operates under a Federal consent decree, a provision of which is that it cannot discriminate in favor of one group of licensees to the disadvantage of other licensees in the same category.

If exhibitors now have executed new contracts at the increased rates, then obviously they have placed Ascap in a position in which it can say that its Federal consent decree prohibits it from granting reductions to those who seek them now because, to do so, would involve discrimination against those exhibitors who have accepted the new licenses.

Exhibitors generally are well advised to take advantage of Ascap's offer to extend present licenses for a 60-day period.

• •

It being strictly in accordance with long-established and practiced Allied States' policy for its officers not to be seen in the company of an affiliated exhibitor, Allied being uncompromisingly opposed to miscegenation, it is not surprising that Abram F. Myers, its chairman and general counsel, and Jack Kirsch, its president, among other Allied stalwarts, declined the invitation of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association to attend the Washington convention of the latter two, Sept. 19 and 20.

However, it must be as plain to Allied as it is to everyone else that the meeting in Washington could provide an excellent forum for the development of a united exhibitor front against Ascap's theatre music tax increase for the benefit of all exhibitors—Allied exhibitors, too.

It would be very simple for Allied to specify the terms on which it would count itself among those present when representatives of a large majority of the exhibitors of the nation gather in Washington and endeavor to find solutions to problems, the increased music tax being foremost among them.

Allied could remain away from the strictly organizational business sessions. But when the meeting turns to the problems which, if solved, will benefit Allied members equally as much as TOA members, Allied could, and should, be present.

It owes that much to its own members, whether it recognizes a kinship with the rest of exhibition or not.

Allied has come up with no suggestion yet which is likely to forestall imposition of the new music tax, on schedule. Its plaint to the Department of Justice for action against Ascap is not to be depended upon too much.

Radio broadcasters pleaded for the same thing for years. Finally the Department acted. It filed an anti-trust action against Ascap, the upshot of which was a consent decree which did absolutely nothing to Ascap's operations and which served primarily as a face-saving device to permit the government to make a more or less ungraceful exit from the broadcaster's suit.

Allied—and exhibitors generally—can hope for no more.

The answer to the Ascap problem has yet to be found. There is a possibility that it will be found at the Washington meeting.

Allied should be there.

Its leaders should reconsider the invitation they have declined.

• •

It has been pointed out to this department that the example employed here last week to illustrate what the new Ascap music tax will cost a Warner theatre, as contrasted with what Warners' music subsidiaries will get out of the increased theatre collections, neglected to mention what the music subsidiaries will get from theatres other than Warners'.

The omission was inadvertent. Estimates which include the royalties of all theatres indicate that the Warner music subsidiaries would collect enough to pay the increased music taxes for all Warner theatres and, perhaps, leave a small profit.

That is not true of M-G-M or Paramount, whose music subsidiaries share to a much lesser extent in Ascap collections.

The point made last week was that these companies, having a voice in Ascap, should protest the increased tax. They owe it to their primary customers, the exhibitors, to do so.

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN at the Rio conference takes the spotlight in current newsreels. Other items are the arsenal explosion at Cadiz, the air races at Cleveland, tennis, football and baseball along with human interest stories. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 3—President Truman in Rio hails signing of pact f hemisphere defense. Crowds see air show Cleveland. Davis Cup tennis match. New York Giants and All-Stars football game. Jitterbugs at Harvest Moon ball.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 201—President Truman hailed in Rio. Davis Cup thrillers. Grid pros beat college stars. Harvest Moon dance champs.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 4—President Truman in Brazil. First pictures of Cadiz arsenal explosion. Sports: Davis Cup match, world series fever, football stars shine for charity.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 71—President Truman receives welcome at Rio. Naval arsenal explosion at Cadiz. National air races at Cleveland. Giants beat All Stars.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 6 — President Truman in Rio. Cleveland air show. Veterans cash bonds. U. S. housewives shop in Canada. Davis Cup tennis match.

Push-Button Control Adopted by Para.

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—The industry's first application of war-developed push-button control of electrical systems is claimed by Paramount with the announcement that the studio' sound engineers have adapted th technique to projection room operation.

The arrangement is said to consolidate, unify and standardize controls, enabling the projectionist in th review room port to control starts stops, changeovers and sound by th operation of illuminated push buttons The system was originally develope for the Army and Navy.

Wis. Theatre Seeks End of Clearance

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—D. F. Kellihe of the Sprague Theatre in Elkhorn Wis., has retained Seymour Simon, Chicago attorney, to handle the elimination of clearances given to Lak Geneva, Wis., and Delawan, Wis over Elkhorn by 20th Century-Fox RKO Radio, Columbia, Universal, an Warner Brothers.

At present, Elkhorn is prevente from playing films until seven day after they have been shown in th other two cities.

RCA Appoints Reed Field Sales Head

CAMDEN, N. J., Sept. 7.—P. Reed has been appointed field sal manager in the East Central regi for RCA engineering products department, by T. A. Smith, general sal manager. Reed, whose headquarters in Cleveland will be in charge of sal in the territory which includes Oh West Virginia, Kentucky, Michig and Western Pennsylvania.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturda Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpub New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Edit Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Pe Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Mot Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 18 Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

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KEEP AMERICA UNCONQUERED

Set M-G-M Regional Sales Conferences

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—M-G-M field sales managers will hold two-day regional meetings with their assistants and district and branch managers starting Thursday, it was decided following a week's conference here by the sales heads with William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager.

All visiting sales executives left for their respective headquarters yesterday. The Eastern group, comprising Rodgers; Edwin W. Aaron, assistant general sales manager; William B. Zoellner, head of short subject sales, and John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, will arrive in New York on Tuesday.

Byrne will hold his meetings at the Hotel Astor; John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, at the Statler Hotel in Cincinnati; Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern sales manager, at the Blackstone in Chicago; Rudolph Berger, Southern sales chief, at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans, and George Hickey, Western sales manager, at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco.

Seven More Projects Approved by U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—Seven theatre construction projects have been approved by the Office of the Housing Expediter; 38 were denied. Dollar value of approvals totalled $327,500; of denials, $2,900,857.

The most expensive project, to cost $125,000, will be built in Los Angeles, by W. J. Kupper, Jr.

Italy and Spain in Film Cooperative

Rome, Sept. 3 (By Airmail)—Financial regulations favoring the exchange of motion pictures between Spain and Italy have been published. The regulations cover all expenses connected with the cooperative work between the two nations in the motion picture industry and provide that payment for films—and a very few other commodities—can be made in lira, in pesetas, or in other currency.

FTC Hearing Today On 'Unfair' Methods

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—A hearing is scheduled to be held here tomorrow in the Federal Trade Commission's complaint against four advertising film companies for "unfair methods of competition tending to restrain trade and create monopoly in the sale of commercial advertising films." The producers are: Ray-Bell Films, Inc., St. Paul; Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs; United Film Ad Service, Inc., Kansas City, and Motion Picture Advertising Service Co., New Orleans.

The FTC filed the complaint some months ago, and all four firms denied the charges.

Tomorrow's hearing, open to the public, will actually be a pre-trial conference before an FTC trial examiner, in which both parties will try to agree on certain facts and to narrow the issues in dispute.

Chicago Censor Bans Only One Picture

CHICAGO, Sept. 7.—Of 88 pictures viewed by the Chicago censor board during August, one Mexican film was banned from local showings and two Mexican films were tagged "Adults Only."

Azteca Pictures' "Mexicano, the Time of the Inquisition," was barred, while the company's "Father Lebonard" and Clasa Productions' "The Crime in the Bedroom" were given the adult tag. The censor board scanned 449,000 feet of film, according to Police Captain Timothy Lyne, and made 35 cuts in addition to its verdicts on the Mexican films.

SRO Distribution for Schary's 'Blandings'

First outside picture to be distributed by the Selznick Releasing Organization will be the RKO Radio-Dore Schary "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House," which will co-star Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Melvyn Douglas, SRO has announced.

The picture, which will go into production shortly, based on the Eric Hodgins novel, is 60 per cent owned by Selznick Enterprises and 40 per cent by RKO Radio.

New Production Unit Formed in Hollywood

Final steps in launching a new Hollywood production company were made at the weekend when Enterprise Studios concluded negotiations with Stanley Kramer, president of Screen Plays, Inc., for the making of his initial film, "So This Is New York," it was disclosed here by Enterprise.

Kramer will produce with his company functioning as a corporate entity in concert with Enterprise. Shooting of the Ring Lardner story will get underway on Sept. 29.

FCC Approves NBC Video Station Here

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—License and construction permits for a new experimental television broadcast station in the New York City area have been granted National Broadcasting by the Federal Communications Commission. FCC officials said NBC will use the station in conjunction with its present commercial television station.

RCA Dividend Declared

Following a meeting of the board of directors of RCA, held here on Friday, David Sarnoff, president and chairman of the board, announced that a dividend of 87½ cents per share had been declared on the $3.50 cumulative first preferred stock, for the period from July 1 to Sept. 30, payable on Oct. 1 to holders of record on Sept. 15.

Jolliffe on RCA Board

Election of Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, executive president in charge of RCA Laboratories, to the board of directors of RCA was announced here by David Sarnoff, president and board chairman.

Capitol Adds Vaudeville

TRENTON, Sept. 7. — Vaudeville shows, to be given in addition to a two-feature screen show, will be inaugurated at the RKO Capitol, here, on Sept. 17.

House Unit Probe Is Scored by IATSE

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Hollywood hearings here before the House subcommittee on labor were used as "a sounding board in an endeavor to publicly and unjustifiably pillory the IATSE," the organization declares in a four-page statement, adding that "the attempt to smear IATSE failed miserably."

The statement declared that many witnesses who had been promise hearings were not allowed to testify, and scored the subcommittee for barring testimony relating to Communist influences at work in the labor setup here.

Carroll D. Kearns, subcommittee chairman, stated at the hearings that this type of testimony was barred as not within the subcommittee's province, and would be taken up later by the House Un-American Activities Committee.

IATSE president Richard F. Walsh conferred with officers of Hollywood IATSE locals yesterday prior to leaving for the Chicago meeting of international presidents on the studio jurisdictional strike.

Japanese Group Will Promote U.S. Films

An American Motion Picture Art Guild, whose membership comprises over 100 personalities prominent in government, education, science and journalism, has been established in Tokyo, "to spread American motion picture culture among the Japanese," according to the Motion Picture Export Association.

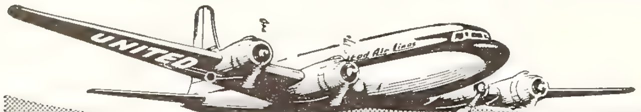
The guild, a voluntary organization which will function as the most powerful agency for cultural enlightenment in Japan, will seek to elevate the appreciation of the Japanese for American screen offerings, by analyzing entertainment, artistic and cultural elements. The guild will work in cooperation with Charles Mayer, MPEA managing director of Japan, who has arranged special preview screenings for the group.

Foreign Film Monthly For Distinguished

Starting late this month, one new foreign-language film will be released each month in an American premiere on Broadway by Distinguished Films. Thus far American distribution rights to 10 films have been procured, including seven French productions, one Italian, one Belgian, and one Hungarian. All are now being edited and given English subtitles for American audiences. None has ever been shown before in this country.

First UN Film Ready

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., Sept. 7.—"The People's Charter," the United Nations' first production, is now available for showings in this country. The film, depicting the founding and development of the United Nations, from the signing of the Atlantic Charter and the organization of the United Nations to the first meeting of the General Assembly in London, is available through Films of the Nations, in New York City, described here as a private non-profit distribution agency.



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TRADE SHOW AND CONVENTION COMMITTEES OF TESMA AND TEDPA

Ohio Exhibitors Ask 3% City Ticket Tax

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 7.—Renewed efforts to induce Ohio city lawmakers to limit new municipal admission taxes to three per cent and to broaden the base of such taxes were pledged by 75 Ohio theatre men and women attending a statewide meeting here at the weekend under the sponsorship of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio.

Some opposition to the mandatory "pass-on" feature of the proposed model ordinance suggested by ITO officials was voiced at the meeting, and a number of exhibitors were in favor of absorbing municipal taxes, just as the present state tax, which expires on Sept. 30, is absorbed in most situations.

While no overall strategy was mapped, each theatre owner was urged to contact city councilmen to present his viewpoints on any new taxes. Columbus theatremen have indicated their intention of attending the local council meeting tomorrow, when an admissions tax ordinance is expected to be introduced.

No action on the ordinance is expected until after the November election. Mayor James A. Rhodes has spoken informally of a five per cent tax as necessary to meet city financing. This rate is expected to produce $255,000 a year.

New Federation Date

Decision as to whether the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, tax-fighting organization of the state's independent exhibitors and circuits, will continue as a permanent unit will be made at an exhibitor mass meeting to be held on Sept. 22, instead of the previously set Sept. 30. It will be held at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton. George Gold, Federation director, will preside. While discussion of Ascap's new tax increase is not on the meeting agenda, it is expected that that development will be dealt with at some length.

Four New Reissue Houses

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Management of the four Academy theatres, established a year ago on an exclusive reissue policy, has launched the four Encore theatres for reissues from the Academy theatres on a moveover. The Academy theatres include the Pickfair, Vermont, Arlington and Cinema. The Encore theatres include the Melvan, Jewel, American and Beverly Canon. All are neighborhood theatres.

More N.Y. Production

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Frank Satenstein, president of Marathon Pictures, is en route to New York to prepare for the production there of "Close Up", for Eagle-Lion release. Satenstein said he believes a producer with plans to form a permanent organization in New York "will get cooperation there that will more than make up for any initial handicaps."

New Film Company

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Stereo Pictures Corp. has been incorporated to make still and motion pictures, three-dimensional and stereoscopic. Incorporators are: Ralph Dick, Henry J. Barley and Julian E. Beaty, Jr., New York.

Reviews

"The Corpse Came C.O.D."

(Columbia)

GEORGE BRENT and Joan Blondell constitute a duet of Class A performers whose versatile talents measure head and shoulders above the script provided them in "The Corpse Came C.O.D."

Murder is the springboard for an abundance of comic hokum as Brent and Miss Blondell, rival newspaper reporters, pit their wits against each other and the police. In about a half-dozen instances the show is good for gales of laughter, but often the comedy clicks only in a fairish sort of way.

Samuel Bischoff's production is set in Hollywood where glamorous Adele Jergens, cast as a screen star, is the recipient of a large package containing a studio designer's remains. The corpse came C.O.D. Brent, Miss Blondell and detective Jim Bannon tackle the case and two murders later Brent unmasks Bannon as the guilty party. The ending comes as a surprise but elements of mystery are crowded out to some extent by labored comedy efforts. Henry Levin directed and George Bricker and Dwight Babcock did the screenplay, from an original by Jimmy Starr. Leslie Brooks, John Berkes, Fred Sears, William Trenk, Una O'Connor and Grant Mitchell are in the support.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. GENE ARNEEL

"Along the Oregon Trail"

(Republic)

EXHIBITORS whose screens are mostly concentrated on the demands of "saddle-saga" customers should find this entry meeting those demands fully. Pleasingly, and sometimes breathtakingly photographed in Trucolor and abounding in action and obstreperous gun-play, the film hews strictly to the hero-vs.-villain formula which characterizes standard Western fare and shows its performers, headed by dashing Monte Hale and pretty Adrian Booth, to best advantage when they are galloping their steeds, firing guns and are otherwise engaged in elemental Western histrionics.

Earle Snell's original screen play, to which additional dialogue was contributed by Royal K. Cole, has Hale in the role of Kit Carson's aide, a daring youth who joins the Fremont expedition into the uncharted wilds of Oregon and, in passing, destroys the attempt of a boyhood chum to set up an independent empire in the territory. Clayton Moore plays the schemer with dreams of the empire, Miss Booth is cast as his sweetheart who goes West to marry him only to forsake him for Hale when she discovers his treasonable intentions. Also in the cast are Roy Barcroft, Max Terhune, Will Wright, and others. During the proceedings Hale and The Riders of the Purple Sage sing a couple of Western ballads. Melville Tucker was associate producer and R. G. Springsteen directed.

Running time, 64 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Aug. 30. CHARLES L. FRANKE

2nd Admission Price Cut

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 7.—For the second time in two months, admission prices at the Lyric Theatre here have been cut. The second took effect last Thursday, Warren D. Butler, manager, has announced. The evening price is reduced to 50 cents from 65 cents, while matinees have been cut to 35 cents from 50 cents. The theatre will continue its first-run policy on low-budget films, he added. These represent the first price cuts in the area.

Marco Montedoro, 60

Marco Montedoro, 60, theatrical costume designer who has designed costumes for Radio City Music Hall shows since 1933, although never officially a member of the staff, died here Friday while conferring on a forthcoming production at the Music Hall. Born in Italy, he was trained in Europe before arriving in this country in 1927 to work on Shubert productions. Five years ago he went to Hollywood to design costumes for RKO Radio's "Sunny", and remained there until this past summer.

Cecil Wood, Jr., 48

Cecil Wood, Jr., 48 years of age, projectionist at the Palace Theatre, here, succumbed to a heart attack on Friday at Polyclinic Hospital. His father is chief projectionist at the Hollywood Theatre. Masonic services were conducted last night at Quinn's Funeral Home.

Ascap Peace Plan

(*Continued from page 1*)

ceived Ascap's proposals but refused to make them known.

Actually, the affiliations amount to exclusive contracts between Ascap and the 25 foreign music societies and dissolutions would mean putting the pacts on a non-exclusive basis. Ascap contends, it is believed, that by so doing the Government could hardly complain on the grounds of monopoly. The fact remains, however, that the foreign groups would in all likelihood continue to channel their repertoire through Ascap here, similarly as Ascap's writer and publisher members here are represented by it non-exclusively.

Annual Ascap Meeting to Be Held Here in October

Annual meeting of Ascap will be held here early next month with Deems Taylor, president, to report to the membership on operations during the past year. Louis Bernstein, treasurer, will discuss the society's fiscal operations.

Gettinger Backs Play

Milton M. Gettinger, special counsel in charge of motion picture financing of the Continental Bank and Trust Co., is principal backer of "Strange Bedfellows," comedy by Florence Ryerson and Colin Clements, which Philip A. Waxman now plans to produce here in mid-November. Gettinger plans later to make the stage production into a film.

'Outlaw' Ads

(*Continued from page 1*)

"The Outlaw" slated to open at the UA-leased Broadway Theatre, here on Thursday, it is disclosed by UA advertising executives. Actually, they state, copy will be limited to the making of this statement: "Now you can see Howard Hughes' production, 'The Outlaw,' introducing Jane Russell." No pictures of Miss Russell will be used in any advertisements, it was said.

Upon receiving word at the wee[illegible] end that "The Outlaw" is slated to open in New York, City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding forbade his staff to make any comment on the matter and himself said "No comment" in answer to queries. Last fall Fielding announced that he would revoke the license of any theatre tha played the picture, whereupon Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer cancelled engagements for their Broadway houses. Fielding's objections were exclusively to the "offensive" advertisements which had been used to promote the picture up to that time. Whethe he will act against the picture's opening at the Broadway is anybody's guess.

'Anticipate No Difficulty'

Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists director of advertising-publicity, said at the weekend that there has been no communication between the company and Fielding in connection with the scheduled opening at the Broadway. Said Lazarus: "We have a blacked out theatre (the Broadway) and picture that has not yet played on Broadway. Hence we will put the picture into the theatre—it's a natura mating. We anticipate no difficult with the City license department. The picture will be shown at the Broadway on a 24-hour, 'round-the clock schedule, Lazarus said.

Last winter Fielding filed an appeal with Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the Motion Picture Division of the New York State Educatio Department, asking revocation of the state's license on "The Outlaw." That appeal and a subsequent one to the Board of Regents were denied. Last April New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Shientag dismissed the Hughes Tool Co. complaint against Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, ruling that the final decision on the showing of "The Outlaw" in New York City remained with the courts only after a violation had been made and prosecution had been instituted.

Code Suit Still Pending

Meanwhile, the anti-trust suit which Hughes Tool started last March against the Motion Picture Association, which had withdrawn from the picture the Production Code seal of approval, is still pending.

Three days before last year's scheduled opening of "The Outlaw" Brandt's Republic and Gotham theatres and Mayer's Rialto, Justice Carroll Walter denied UA's motion for an injunction compelling Brandt and Mayer to exhibit the film.

Jules Fields on His Ow

Jules Fields, publicity manager 20th Century-Fox, here, has resigned to form his own organization after a brief vacation. Fields was formerly in the field exploitation department, and was promoted to the home office in 1942.

Australia May Ask For U. S. Film Loan

Canberra, Australia, Sept. 7.—According to a high ministerial source here, the Australian Government has suggested to U. S. film industry representatives that they invest $2,000,000 annually in developing Australian production.

It was reported that Premier J. B. Chifley proposed this method of curtailing by 30 per cent the present earnings remitted to the United States, which total more than $6,000,000 annually.

Home office foreign department executives said they had not been officially advised at the weekend of the Australian proposal. They assumed that it meant that 30 per cent of American film revenues in Australia would be frozen, the blocked funds to be earmarked for investment in Australian film production.

TUC Backs

(*Continued from page* 1)

75 per cent British tax, and urged the TUC to submit a policy to the government for short-term and long-term action to raise British films to "their rightful position in the world." The TUC was asked to consult film unions on the best way to achieve that object.

Elvin said that it is nonsense to say that the Dalton tax would cripple the British industry even if the threat of the American boycott continues, adding: "At present, 17,000,000 pounds ($68,000,000) are going to America and less than 1,000,000 pounds ($4,000,000) are coming this way from British film rentals in the U. S., yet they are as good as any that come out of America."

Elvin charged that the Americans are using the United Nations Organization to maintain domination of the film industry. "They seek to have films covered the same way as ordinary merchandise," Elvin said. "That means the culture of some countries will sink under a flood of American films." He said that the tax created a great opportunity for British films.

Ralph Bond, ACT vice-president and considered an adherent of the extreme left-wing movement, declared in support of the resolution that no aspect of British cultural life has been so overwhelmingly subjected to American influence as films.

"The world's screens should not be dominated by one country because of its economic strength," Bond said. "If as a result of the Dalton tax we don't see so many American films, at least we will be spared the outpourings of such persons as Ginger Rogers who boasted to the American press that she refused to speak in a certain film because of un-American and Communist propaganda."

Bond asked that the TUC assist the film unions in developing "a representative healthy film industry here, that on its merits will get its product on the screens of this and other countries."

Government officials viewed the resolution as a healthy example of blowing off steam.

Reviews

"The Tawny Pipit"

(*Rank-Prestige-Universal-International*)

ANTHUS CAMPESTRIS, commonly known as the tawny pipit bird, gets the spotlight in this leisurely British production which offers some pleasant character portrayals of the inhabitants of a sleepy village during the war. The theme is novel, the shots of the village are excellent, and the cast performs well, but the very serenity of the locale overtakes the story and numbs its effectiveness. Day-dreaming is induced by "The Tawny Pipit," whose lack of vigorous tempo somewhat dissipates its box-office effectiveness. It should have appeal, however, for "art theatre" patrons.

Great excitement is created in the village of Lipsbury Lea when two tawny pipits, rare European birds, arrive on the outskirts for the second time in known British history. Nial McGinnis, a recuperating pilot, and his nurse, Rosamund John, discover the birds, inform a noted ornithologist, Brefni O'Rorke, and through the vicar, Christopher Steele, involve the village in the protection of the pipit couple while eggs are hatching. Various references to fair play are linked to the purposes of the war, which is pointed up, too, by the visit of a Russian girl sniper who has personally killed more than 100 Nazis. An unscrupulous ornithologist attempts to steal the eggs, is foiled by the British army, and the young birds break through the shells in a splash of soft-hearted sentiment and village rejoicing. Charles Saunders and Bernard Miles directed and wrote the screenplay. Muir Mathieson was music director; Miles produced.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Sept. 6.

DAVID A. GORDON

"Robin Hood of Monterey"

(*Monogram*)

IN accents of poetry, Gilbert Roland as the Cisco Kid, goes through his familiar chores of redressing injustice. Aiding him in the exploits is Pancho, his sidekick, played by Cris-Pin Martin, and a cast that includes Evelyn Brent and Jack La Rue as the heavies. Marked with ample gunplay and chases, the plot runs a tumultuous if not always credible course. It also turns up a good deal of laughter, intended and unintended, but all told, emerges as a fairly entertaining film in its category.

The original screenplay, by Bennett Cohen, has Miss Brent plotting the murder of her elderly husband in order to take over an estate and marry her younger suitor. The crime is committed so that suspicion falls on her stepson. Cisco steps into the scene and before he clears things up, has to break out of jail, casually face a firing squad and engage in some passing amours. Christy Cabanne directed, Jeffrey Bernard produced.

Running time, 59 minutes. General audience classification.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

No Improvement in UK Crisis: Cowdin

Universal's board of directors, meeting here at the weekend, received from board chairman J. Cheever Cowdin no word of encouragement in connection with the British tax situation in his report on conditions in England, from where he returned to the U. S. on Friday. Living conditions in Britain are deplorable and the political situation there is sad, Cowdin told his associates.

Cowdin will leave New York today for Washington where he will spend several days conferring on the British tax situation with Government officials and probably with Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president.

"No developments of any significance," was the report of other industry sources at the weekend in connection with possible occurrences since the British loan delegation returned to London early last week.

Set Spanish Film Deal

Guaranteed Pictures de la Argentina, with headquarters in Buenos Aires, has concluded a deal for world distribution of 48 Spanish dialogue reissues produced by Establecimentos Filmadores Argentinos, it was announced here by Star Film Corp., representative for Guaranteed Pictures. All 48 will soon become available in 16mm. for the U. S.

Donald Nelson Here For UK Tax Confabs

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 7.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and his assistant Marvin Faris, have left here by plane for New York for conferences with Gradwell Sears, president of United Artists; James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions; and Milton Kramer, counsel for David O. Selznick, on the British tax situation.

At midweek Nelson will proceed to Washington for talks with Government and trade officials on the subject.

Promotion Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

dications are that the companies, all of them now effecting economy programs, are not likely to invest any considerable amounts at the moment.

Ideas for the campaign were advanced by Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director of 20th Century-Fox and chairman of the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association.

The program calls for the use of various media, including the newsreels, in getting across the idea that Hollywood is a sound business operation, and that attacks against the film colony often are unfair.

Laufer Quits Monogram

Phil Laufer, veteran industry publicist in the East, resigned his publicity post with Monogram in New York on Friday.

MPTOA Name

(*Continued from page* 1)

TOA affiliate, said that the vote of his organization in favor of the merger with the ATA was unanimous. However, his announcement of the results of the mail ballot on the subject said, the membership would like to retain the name of the MPTOA which is so well known to exhibitors because of "its long years of service."

When the merger of ATA with MPTOA was approved by the boards of directors of the two organizations at their meeting in New York in July it was proposed that the name of the new organization be the Theatre Owners of America. However, the name of the new organization, as well as the merger itself, and other material issues involved in the merger, are subject to the approval of member units of both organizations.

Representatives of the member units will vote at the Washington meeting in accordance with the instructions of their membership.

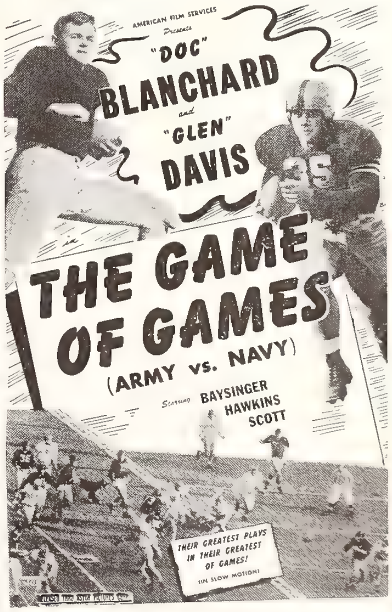
Many exhibitors concerned with the merger point out that it was the ATA that proposed the merger orginally and on a "no strings attached" basis. They contend that ATA, an organization less than 18 months old, should not make an issue of continuing the name of the organization with which it elects to affiliate, particularly in view of the fact that the MPTOA name has been in continuous existence for more than 25 years.

In his announcement of the results of his poll of the West Virginia unit's membership, Shanklin states that both ATA and MPTOA "have about reached the crossroads" and the merger either will inspire the officers and membership to continued constructive efforts or it "will lapse into chaos." He characterizes the merger as "the most important in exhibitor history."

Shanklin adds that exhibitor organization is more needed now than ever before and urges all exhibitors who are not now organization members "to join some group of your choice now."

Fabian Name Change

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 7.—Fabian Troy Theatres Corp. has changed its name to Staten Island Drive-In Corp.



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'GREEN' FOR THE BOX OFFICE!

THE INDUSTRY'S TRADE CLUES TO A THRILL HIT!

"Delightful tale of crime and humor . . . perfectly turned to hold audience attention!" —*Motion Picture Herald*

"Will keep payees guessing . . . Inspector Cockrill played superbly by Alastair Sim!" —*Daily Variety*

"Well-made thriller . . . high degree of suspense!" —*Exhibitor*

"Enthralling thriller . . . builds to suspenseful, ingenious climax!" —*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Refreshingly made . . . excellent all-around acting, clever dialogue, adroit direction!" —*Motion Picture Daily*

"Will keep audiences excited and guessing up to last minute!" —*Independent*

NEW YORK NEWSPAPER CLUES TO A THRILL HIT!

"A humdinger of a baffler . . . humorous, intriguing, startling!" —*Times*

"Loaded with suspense . . . make a note to see it!" —*Daily News*

"Well worth seeing. Amusing and gripping drama!" —*Herald Tribune*

"More humor and excitement than most!" —*Sun*

"Corking good thriller. Suspenseful . . . slick . . . deftly devised. Sim is terrific!" —*Post*

"A tonic for the audience. Inspector Cockrill enchanting!" —*PM*

GREEN FOR DANGER

J. ARTHUR RANK *presents*
SALLY GRAY · TREVOR HOWARD · ROSAMUND JOHN
in **"GREEN FOR DANGER"**
and presenting ALASTAIR SIM *as Inspector Cockrill*
with LEO GENN · MEGS JENKINS · JUDY CAMPBELL · MOORE MARRIOTT
Directed by SIDNEY GILLIAT Produced by FRANK LAUNDER and SIDNEY GILLIAT
AN EAGLE LION FILMS RELEASE

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62. NO. 49 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1947 TEN CENTS

Capital Sees Admission Tax Cut in Offing

Expected to Be a Part Of Administration Plan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. — Reduction in excise taxes, including the U. S. admission tax, is considered certain to be part of an Administration tax program now being drawn up by Treasury Department experts.

Details are not available on the program, but Treasury sources say the thinking is to spread tax reduction over many types of taxes, hence the emphasis on excise tax reductions.

These sources refuse to say how much of a reduction in the admission tax is included in the Treasury plans, but indicated the cut might be increased if the industry's foreign market continues to shrink and some additional help becomes imperative here at home.

The Treasury program is also reported to contemplate little or no tax

(*Continued on page 6*)

Start Case Against Four Ad-Film Firms

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Attorneys for four advertising film companies cited by the Federal Trade Commission for restraint of trade met today with Commission attorneys and agreed to present a stipulation to the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Make Public Tax Conscious: ATOI

Indianapolis, Sept. 8. — Keep the patron conscious of the taxes he pays at the theatre, advises the Associated Theater Owners of Indiana.

"If your patron knows that he is paying these taxes, you are more likely to get his support in resisting new taxes and in our efforts to repeal existing excises," it declares.

ATOI also suggests that equal prominence be given the tax and the total price in the schedule of admission and in all advertising.

U.S. Studying Ascap Licenses; Exhibitor Protests Increase

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Justice Department officials said today that they were giving "careful consideration" to ASCAP's theatre-licensing arrangements to determine if there is "any apparent violation of the anti-trust laws."

They stated that they had received "quite a number of complaints, running into the dozens" from exhibitors protesting the Society's recent increase in theatre license fees, and that this had prompted the study.

They emphasized that their investigation does not necessarily mean they believe a violation of the Sherman Act is involved, but merely that the subject requires study.

One official said that many of the exhibitor letters do not request specific Justice Department action. "They just know they're being hurt," he said, "and want us to get going and do something."

NYC to Introduce New Filming Permit

Decision to free motion picture location shooting in New York City from the requirements of the street carnival permit under which such shooting now is effected, and to substitute therefor a special, simplified "motion picture permit" was reached at the meeting between city departmental executives and city film coordinator Edward C. Maguire yesterday in the presence of the special committee of industry representatives which is advising Maguire. Officials of the police, housing, building, and other departments participated.

Tomorrow, Maguire and the industry committee will meet with officials

(*Continued on page 6*)

Exhibitors Warned On 'Hold Dates'

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 8.—Exhibitors are urged to "beware of hold dates" by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, in its weekly bulletin.

"For your own protection do not get out on a limb by advertising a picture on which you have no contract approval or confirmation and do not leave such a date unprotected," it advises.

Citing a number of reports that ex-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Yates-Goetz Deal Set, Republic Announces

Hollywood, Sept. 8.—Finalization of a deal whereby Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic, would secure the stock holdings of Harry Goetz in the company was signed last Friday, Republic confirmed today. Yates is understood to have purchased all or most of the 80,000 shares held by Goetz in Republic and associated companies. Purchase price was not disclosed, but it is estimated to be approximately $500,000.

Para.-Liberty Deal Hinges on U.S. Tax

Unless the Treasury Department recognizes the sale of Liberty Films to Paramount as a tax-free reorganization of Liberty's affairs, the transaction will be called off, Frank Capra is quoted as saying in a *New York Times* story from Hollywood.

Capra, with William Wyler, George Stevens and Sam Briskin, is a partner in Liberty. Most of the latter's personnel already are working for Paramount.

Capra said he and his partners are awaiting the Government ruling on whether or not their exchange of Liberty stock for what was estimated to be $5,000,000 of Paramount stock was a tax-free transaction before formally closing the deal. There will be no deal, he is quoted as saying, if the Government rules otherwise.

Films Would Benefit By Air Freight Cut

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8. — Three major airlines have asked the U. S. Civil Aeronautics Board to approve reductions averaging 33⅓ per cent in air freight rates for a number of commodities, including films, effective Oct. 5. The film and theatre equipment industries are collectively among the country's biggest users of air freight lines.

These reductions will be on top of the 25 per cent cut that went into effect on Aug. 1, and will drop air freight rates on these lines to about 12 to 14 cents a ton mile, only a few cents higher than the increased rates recently asked for by Railway Express. Present rates are 20 cents to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Gamble Looms As 'Logical' TOA President

Move Is On to Draft Him for Merger Post

Ted Gamble, board chairman of the American Theatres Association is regarded in ATA and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America circles here as "the most logical person" to fill the presidency of the organization which will evolve from the merger of ATA and MPTOA, it appeared yesterday as officials of both prepared to engage in a series of huddles over the next several days to pick a slate of officers for presentation at the merger convention

Ted Gamble

(*Continued on page 7*)

Recess Coast Strike Talks Until Oct. 20

CHICAGO, Sept. 8.—Some hope that the Hollywood jurisdictional tangle might finally be settled was seen here today in the fact that top officials of the unions involved had seriously discussed the question in what was described as an amicable conference here, and after the conference, Rep.

(*Continued on page 6*)

4 Distributors File Percentage Suits

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 8.—Paramount, Loew's, Warners and RKO have filed percentage suits in the U. S. District court here against Sidney and William Volk, operating the Camden, Falls and Nile theatres in this city. The complaints allege that the defend-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reviewed Today

"Caravan" is reviewed on page 6.

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio sales manager, left here by plane for Hollywood yesterday.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M general sales manager, and his assistant, EDWIN W. AARON, WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER and JOHN P. BYRNE will return to the home office tomorrow from the Coast, while JOHN J. MALONEY, Central sales manager, will return to his Pittsburgh headquarters.

•

WILLIAM PERLBERG, 20th Century-Fox producer, and MRS. PERLBERG; LUCIAN BALLARD, film technician, and his wife, MERLE OBERON; ROBERT RYAN, CARY GRANT and ROBERT COOTE are among industry figures who will arrive here today from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary*.

•

MRS. ELAINE JOEL, daughter of HERBERT R. EBENSTEIN, general manager of Western Candy Distributing, and widow of MAJOR MILTON JOEL, was married here Saturday to DR. ALLEN FRIEDLICH.

•

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity director for Eagle-Lion, accompanied by JERRY PICKMAN, his assistant, and BOB CONDON of the publicity staff, left here yesterday for Washington.

•

SILAS F. SEADLER, M-G-M advertising manager, returned here yesterday from the Coast, and ERNEST EMERLING, Loew's advertising-publicity head, is due back at the end of the week.

•

ELLIOT MCMANUS, 20th Century-Fox manager in Panama, and HELEN WEADE BRIDGES of Hilton, Va., were married in Panama Aug. 28, according to word received here yesterday.

•

JOE BLUESTONE, Universal-International salesman in New Orleans, has resigned to join RKO Radio in that capacity, covering the Mississippi territory.

•

BILL CLOWES, executive director of the Scoop Theatre, Louisville, his wife and their two daughters, are on a vacation trip to Bermuda.

•

JULES STEIN, Music Corp. of America board chairman, is scheduled to leave Hollywood for Chicago by American Airlines today.

•

ANDREW W. SMITH, JR., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, left New York last night for Kansas City.

•

L. C. MONTGOMERY has returned to New Orleans after a tour of his theatres in the territory.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Republic Southern division manager, left here yesterday for Atlanta.

•

BURGESS MEREDITH arrived here yesterday from England on the *SS Mauretania*.

THIS WEEK

The second annual

WORLD MARKET SECTION

MOTION PICTURE HERALD

of September 13, 1947

U. S. Offers World Information Code

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The State Department has made public a proposed international agreement on freedom of information, prepared under the direction of Richard J. Finnegan, publisher of the *Chicago Times*.

The treaty draft gives specific recognition to freedom for motion pictures, thereby, in the opinion of a Motion Picture Association official, meeting earlier industry objections. The proposal is designed to provide the ideas that all branches of the communications industry would like to see written into future information pacts.

Assistant Secretary of State William Benton, in making the treaty public, invited interested persons or groups to submit their comments and suggestions to the State Department. Motion picture industry groups were consulted by Finnegan while drawing up the draft. The treaty defines "information agencies" as including motion picture producing companies, and "correspondents" to include "newsreel and other documentary picture production personnel."

Probe of Petrillo Suddenly Postponed

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Hearings on James C. Petrillo, head of the American Federation of Musicians, slated to open here Sept. 15 before a House labor committee, have been postponed indefinitely, committee spokesmen said today.

Although no clear reason for postponement was given, it was indicated that Rep. Carroll Kearns, who has been conducting hearings on Petrillo in Hollywood, had gathered enough material for the committee's purposes. Committee clerks said that Rep. Fred A. Hartley, Jr., chairman of the committee, would issue a definite statement on the hearings upon his return here next week.

Domingo and Groh Promoted by RKO

BOSTON, Sept. 8.—Ben Domingo, manager of the local RKO Theatre, has been promoted to New England division manager of the circuit. Emil H. Groh, whom he succeeds, has been promoted to regional director of RKO Theatres in Ohio.

Milton H. Feld, 55, Dies in Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—Milton H. Feld, industry pioneer, first in exhibition, later in both exhibition and distribution, and then a producer here, died yesterday at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital at 55, having been born in Kansas City on Nov. 17, 1892. Funeral services will be held Wednesday. The widow survives.

Feld entered the film industry in Kansas City in 1909. While retaining an interest in a theatre he entered selling, with the old V. L. S. E. and was later branch and district manager for Universal. In 1918 he left distribution to become associated with Frank L. Newman as managing director of the Newman, Royal Regent and 12th Street theatres in Kansas City.

In 1924, when Paramount-Publix acquired the Newman circuit, Feld became managing director of Paramount's Metropolitan, Million Dollar and Rialto theatres in Los Angeles. In the following year he transferred to the Paramount-Publix home office in New York, where he was placed in charge of the circuit, under Sam Katz, and working with the late David Chatkin. He resigned in 1933 to organize the independent Monarch Theatres, in New York, of which he was president until Nov., 1935, when he resigned to enter production here as assistant to Darryl Zanuck. In 1936 through 1938 Feld was an associate producer at 20th Century-Fox. In the latter year he became an executive producer for Universal.

Foy to Handle 'Noose Hangs High'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—"The Noose Hangs High," an Abbott and Costello feature which Milton Feld had prepared for production and release through Eagle-Lion, will be taken over by Bryan Foy, E-L studio executive.

First MPA Exchange Area Directory Set

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The long-awaited initial release in the Motion Picture Association's series of theatre directories by exchange areas is now in final shape and is looked for in about two weeks, MPA officials said.

The first exchange area to be covered is the Buffalo district. MPA said the main hold-up has been in getting certain necessary maps.

Wolcott Leaves Disney

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—In order to devote his entire time to other commitments and to the writing of original music, Charles Wolcott has ended a nine year's association with the Walt Disney studio, where he has been general musical director since 1944.

Change Ampa Meet Date

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' salute to the 16mm. industry, set for Sept. 17 at Town Hall, here, has been changed to Sept. 19, according to Arnold Stoltz, AMPA president. Dave Bader will be chairman.

Wm. Feld Appointed E-L District Manager

William Feld, veteran sales and distribution executive, has been appointed Eagle-Lion district manager for the territories of St. Louis, Omaha and Des Moines by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and general sales manager.

Serving under Feld in the distric[illegible] will be William Sherman as branc[illegible] manager in St. Louis; Sol Reif, [illegible]ha branch manager; F. J. Le[illegible] Moines manager.

McKenna Joins F-C

John McKenna, former United Artists film salesman in up-State New York, has joined Film Classics' sales staff, and will service the North New Jersey area.

Philatelists to Meet

First fall meeting of the Cinem[illegible] Stamp Collectors here will be hel[illegible] tomorrow night at the Hotel Asto[illegible] here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
CARY GRANT . MYRNA LOY . SHIRLEY TEMPLE
The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAY[illegible]
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
B'WAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing!
'BLACK GOLD'
IN CINECOLOR
ANTHONY QUINN
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
MONICA LEWIS
Extra!
Paul WINCHELL

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
in Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
MIDNIGHT FEAT NIGHTLY

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Prosperity Holding At N.Y. First-Runs Despite the Weather

Prosperity continues to prevail at New York first-runs which, with a very few exceptions, are offering holdovers. With the termination of the vacation season the city has found itself in the grip of warm and humid weather and, [illegible] measure of credit for continuing good business should go to theatre air-conditioning.

An excellent fifth week is in view for "Welcome Stranger," plus Carmen Cavallaro and band on stage, at the Paramount, where $80,000 is expected. At the Criterion, the reissued 'Gone with the Wind," which drew a tremendous $55,000 in its first week, is continuing at its jack-pot pace, the house having counted $20,000 from Saturday through yesterday. A very solid $100,000 is apparently in store for "Mother Wore Tights" in a third week at the Roxy, where Jack Haley and Ella Logan are topping the stage bill. A 15 per cent increase in business over the weekend was noted at the Astor where the fourth week of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" is expected to equal the third's bulging $55,000.

$45,000 for 'Life' in 4th Week

Outstanding in its fourth week at the Warner is "Life with Father" with $45,000 sighted for a fourth week; the picture is expected to remain for at least the rest of the year. Meanwhile, newcomer "Dark Passage," plus Vic Lombardo's band on stage, bowed in impressively at the Strand where a very prosperous $70,000 is expected for the first week.

Holding up well at the Capitol is "Song of the Thin Man," doubling with Bill Robinson and Art Mooney's orchestra on stage, and $49,000 is anticipated for a second week. "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" and a stage presentation at Radio City Music Hall look for a fair $115,000 in a seventh and final week; "Down to Earth" bows in there on Thursday. 'Crossfire" is still good at the Rivoli where a seventh week is expected to bring $27,500.

At the Mayfair, "Kiss of Death" continues to draw impressively under the house's new first-run policy, and a very good $37,000 is expected for the picture's second week. At the Park, "Frieda," which showed signs of losing ground in its third week, is now picking up and a satisfactory $9,000 is viewed for a fourth week; the picture will hold as a result of the comeback.

'Black Narcissus' Rebounds

Also rebounding is "Black Narcissus," at the Fulton, where the third week's $18,000 is expected to be topped in the fourth by $1,000. Continuing good business is foreseen for the third week of "The Roosevelt Story," at the Globe, where $26,000 is in sight. At the Winter Garden, 'Something in the Wind" is likely to draw a so-so $20,000 for a second week; the picture will hold for a third week. The second week of "Lured," at the Victoria, is seen bringing a satisfactory $20,000.

Also maintaining a satisfactory pace is "I Know Where I'm Going," at the Sutton, where the second week's $13,000 is expected to be repeated in the third. Opening days of "The Tawny Pipit" at the Little Carnegie were greeted with good business and a substantial $8,000 for the first week is anticipated. Next Tuesday "The Long Night" will open at the Palace to mark the termination of that house's summer repertory program under which "Gunga Din," playing Saturday and Sunday, grossed $6,800. The Broadway, shuttered for several weeks, is scheduled to reopen on Thursday with "The Outlaw," as reported.

125 Houses in Work In South America

Some 125 new theatres are now being constructed in South America countries, reports Arthur F. Baldwin, National Theatre Supply's export manager, who has just returned from a visit to theatre operators and company dealers, over a period of 10 weeks, to 18 countries in that territory.

Baldwin covered more than 18,000 miles in air travel. "The overall picture," he said, "indicates a good potential market for theatre equipment. I was amazed at the amount of modern construction under way. All theatre buildings are of the very latest modern design."

Baldwin said he found a need for more and larger theatres. At present, houses do not have enough seating capacity to meet steadily increasing demands. In every country, he added, an even wider expansion program is being retarded by exchange controls and restrictions.

Honor Frudenfeld, Retiring RKO Official

CINCINNATI, Sept. 8.—Arthur Frudenfeld, retiring RKO division manager, was guest of honor at a dinner given by local RKO theatre managers at the Hotel Gilson here. He will leave tomorrow for California, where he will reside.

Frudenfeld was also feted at the Netherland Plaza by the Cincinnati Variety Club. William McCraw, executive director of Variety International, was toastmaster. Frudenfeld was presented with luggage and a gold life membership certificate.

Present at the Netherland Plaza were: Sol Schwartz and Harry Mandel of the RKO New York home office; Joe Goetz, RKO field representative; James J. Grady, 20th-Fox district manager; Peter Rosian, U-I district manager; Marc Wolf, of Indianapolis; Emil Groth, Frudenfeld's successor, and William Keyes, Dayton, O., exhibitor.

Bookers' Dinner Oct. 12

With the resumption of bi-monthly meetings, the Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York announces it will hold its annual dinner-dance at the Commodore Hotel, here, on Sunday evening, Oct. 12. Edward Richter, M-G-M head booker, is in charge of arrangements; president is Oscar Lager of the Moses circuit.

UPA Palestine Film

Quentin Reynolds has completed the narration for the United Palestine Appeal's latest film, "Assignment: Tel Aviv," which will be shown here shortly as part of a special film program on Palestine. Produced by Paul V. Falkenberg, the film was directed by Lazar Dunner, and written by Harold E. Steinberg.

Minnesota Circuit Raises 'Ad' Budget

Minneapolis, Sept. 8.—In a policy directed toward greater showmanship, the Minnesota Amusement Co. has steadily increased budgets for advertising and other promotional efforts since the first of the year, it was disclosed by Harry French, president of the circuit.

It is understood that the French policy was praised by Leonard Goldenson, national head of Paramount theatres, and Edward Hyman, chief of theatre operations.

W.B. Albany Zone Men Meet on Operations

ALBANY, Sept. 8.—A return to prewar standards of theatre operation and exploitation was the theme of a Warner district meeting here today attended by managers from Albany, Troy and Utica. G. J. Latta, zone manager, and C. A. Smakwitz, assistant zone manager, led the discussion. Latta stressed keeping down expenses, conserving supplies and watching small things. He said Warner houses are amply stocked with fuel and other necessities.

Smakwitz urged courtesy be shown by ushers, doormen and cashiers; that uniforms by kept clean and neat, and suggested brighter theatre fronts. He called for more vigorous exploitation and better attention to tieups.

James Faughnan, contract manager, M. A. Friedman, film buyer, and Joe Weinstein, booker, attended.

11 More Features Rated by Legion

Six of 11 more pictures reviewed by the National Legion of Decency have been placed in Class A-I; they are: "Adventures of Don Coyote," United Artists; "Bulldog Drummond Strikes Back" and "Smoky River Serenade," both Columbia; "Fun and Fancy Free," Disney-RKO Radio; "Hollywood Barn Dance," Screen Guild: "Red Stallion," Eagle-Lion.

Rated A-II are: "The Case of the Baby Sitter," Screen Guild; "Kiss of Death," 20th Century-Fox; "The Pretender," Republic, and "Stork Bites Man," United Artists. Universal's "Singapore" was placed in Class B.

Shea Clearance Trial Is Set for November

CHICAGO, Sept. 8.—Pending litigation by the Rivoli Theatre in Buffalo against distributing companies and the Shea Circuit regarding elimination of clearances favoring the circuit, will reach trial the early part of November, according to Thomas McConnel, Chicago counsel for the plaintiff.

The case is scheduled to be heard in Buffalo Federal Court by Judge John A. Knight.

$8,672 for Cancer

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—Samuel Goldwyn has presented the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund for Cancer Research with a check for $8,672, proceeds from the "Giant of Jazz" jamboree conducted at Casino Gardens in Ocean Park, Cal., on Aug. 20.

SAG to Keep 'Tabs' On Non-Signatories

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—The Screen Actors Guild has sent all talent agencies a complete list of producers who have signed contracts with the union and, in an accompanying letter, asks the agencies to notify SAG if any non-signatories attempt to employ actors.

The letter further states that "special and different arrangements" must be made by non-signatories seeking to employ actors, or by new producers entering business after the prevailing contracts with the Association of Motion Picture Producers, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association were signed.

SAG explained that the Taft-Hartley Law entitles non-signatories to seek to employ actors, but does not require SAG members to accept employment except from signatories. Arrangements alluded to in the "separate and different" provision, it is understood, would seek to bind non-signatories to observe contract terms and to sign an agreement equivalent to the prevailing terms.

Springer Transfers 5 Century Managers

Five managerial changes have been effected by J. R. Springer, general manager of Century Theatres, as follows:

Howard Cohn, manager of the Vogue has been transferred to the Midwood; Murray Greene, manager of the Albermarle has been transferred to the Vogue; Sidney Baker, of the 43rd Street, has been transferred to the Albemarle; Samuel Tilford, assistant manager of the Avalon, has been transferred to the 43rd Street as manager; Eugene Connelly, assistant manager of the Baldwin has been transferred to the Lynbrook in the same capacity.

Allen Grant, manager of the Patio, who has been out due to ill health, has returned to the theatre.

'Sleep, My Love' Ad Figure

United Artists has set an advertising budget of $250,000 on Triangle Productions' initial film, "Sleep, My Love."

Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity director, will hold a series of conferences this week with Sam Dembow, Jr., Triangle sales representative, and Joseph Curtis, who have returned to New York from Hollywood following conferences with Triangle executives Mary Pickford, Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn on advertising, publicity and promotion details for "Sleep, My Love."

SOPEG-SPG Meet

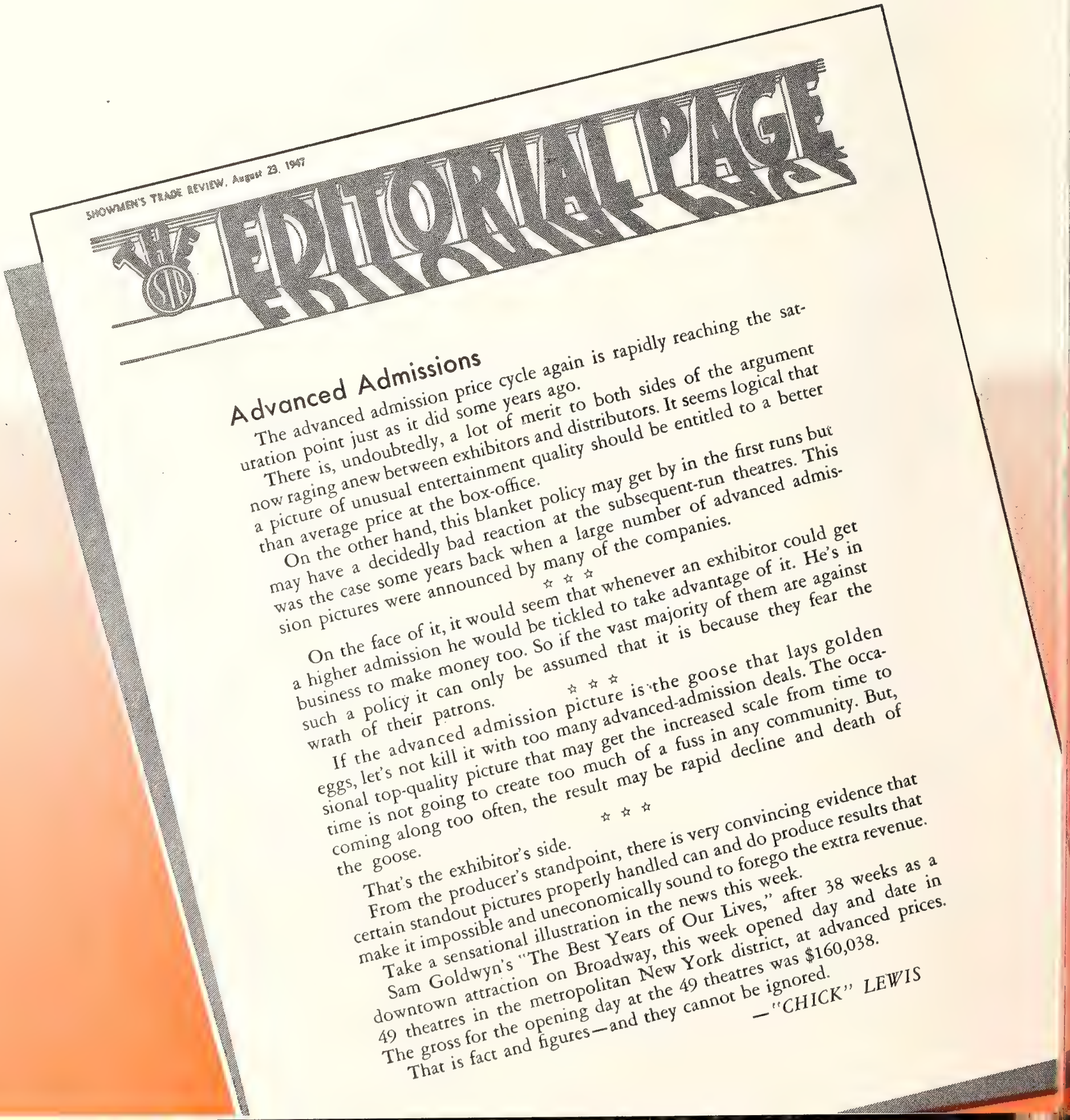
A meeting of the strategy committee of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and the Screen Publicists Guild was held here last night to review progress in the unions' fight against layoffs.

Russell Transferred

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 8.—Don Russell has been transferred from the Samuel Goldwyn Productions publicity staff to foreign sales as assistant to Al Crown.

"If it's American..

I AM republishing the highlights of Chick Lewis' recent editorial in Showmen's Trade Review, because it so fairly represents both the exhibitor's problem and opportunity.★Advanced admission prices do represent a real problem if they ar going to be used indiscriminately. But if they are used where they are justified...when truly fine picture comes along...they are not a problem to the exhibitor, but a chanc to obtain the same results obtained by Mr. Sam C. Meyers, whose unsolicited lette below is typical of the experience of every exhibitor who has played "The Best Year of Our Lives" at advanced prices.★Today more than ever, in view of the British tax, w must attract more people to the motion picture theatres in America. This can only b



SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW, August 23, 1947

THE EDITORIAL PAGE

Advanced Admissions

The advanced admission price cycle again is rapidly reaching the saturation point just as it did some years ago.

There is, undoubtedly, a lot of merit to both sides of the argument now raging anew between exhibitors and distributors. It seems logical that a picture of unusual entertainment quality should be entitled to a better than average price at the box-office.

On the other hand, this blanket policy may get by in the first runs but may have a decidedly bad reaction at the subsequent-run theatres. This was the case some years back when a large number of advanced admission pictures were announced by many of the companies.

☆ ☆ ☆

On the face of it, it would seem that whenever an exhibitor could get a higher admission he would be tickled to take advantage of it. He's in business to make money too. So if the vast majority of them are against such a policy it can only be assumed that it is because they fear the wrath of their patrons.

☆ ☆ ☆

If the advanced admission picture is the goose that lays golden eggs, let's not kill it with too many advanced-admission deals. The occasional top-quality picture that may get the increased scale from time to time is not going to create too much of a fuss in any community. But, coming along too often, the result may be rapid decline and death of the goose.

☆ ☆ ☆

That's the exhibitor's side.

From the producer's standpoint, there is very convincing evidence that certain standout pictures properly handled can and do produce results that make it impossible and uneconomically sound to forego the extra revenue.

Take a sensational illustration in the news this week.

Sam Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," after 38 weeks as a downtown attraction on Broadway, this week opened day and date in 49 theatres in the metropolitan New York district, at advanced prices. The gross for the opening day at the 49 theatres was $160,038.

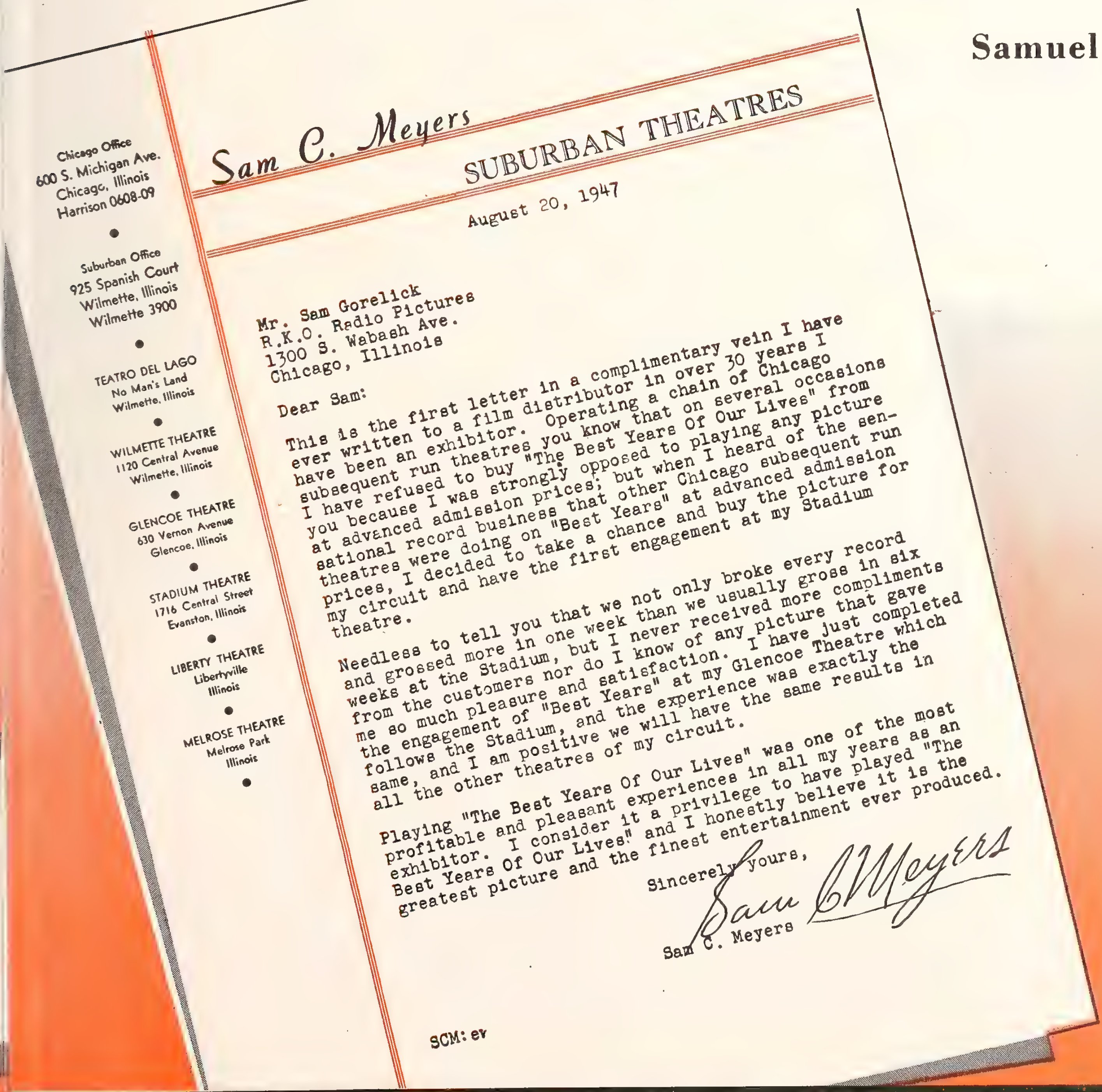
That is fact and figures—and they cannot be ignored.

—"CHICK" LEWIS

it's unsurpassed!"

done by improving, not reducing, the calibre of American pictures. To do this, however, requires the cooperation of the exhibitors in charging an advanced admission price when the exceptional picture comes along.★ Last week *Lord Beaverbrook* appealed in his papers to the British film industry to seize upon the opportunity presented by the British tax and to build swiftly and surely so that it could prove the truth of the slogan, *"If it's British, it's good."*★ That's fine...but let us here all work together so that we can continue to say truthfully...*"If it's American, it's unsurpassed."*

Samuel Goldwyn



Sam C. Meyers
SUBURBAN THEATRES

Chicago Office
600 S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois
Harrison 0608-09
•
Suburban Office
925 Spanish Court
Wilmette, Illinois
Wilmette 3900
•
TEATRO DEL LAGO
No Man's Land
Wilmette, Illinois
•
WILMETTE THEATRE
1120 Central Avenue
Wilmette, Illinois
•
GLENCOE THEATRE
630 Vernon Avenue
Glencoe, Illinois
•
STADIUM THEATRE
1716 Central Street
Evanston, Illinois
•
LIBERTY THEATRE
Libertyville
Illinois
•
MELROSE THEATRE
Melrose Park
Illinois
•

August 20, 1947

Mr. Sam Gorelick
R.K.O. Radio Pictures
1300 S. Wabash Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sam:

This is the first letter in a complimentary vein I have ever written to a film distributor in over 30 years I have been an exhibitor. Operating a chain of Chicago subsequent run theatres you know that on several occasions I have refused to buy "The Best Years Of Our Lives" from you because I was strongly opposed to playing any picture at advanced admission prices; but when I heard of the sensational record business that other Chicago subsequent run theatres were doing on "Best Years" at advanced admission prices, I decided to take a chance and buy the picture for my circuit and have the first engagement at my Stadium theatre.

Needless to tell you that we not only broke every record and grossed more in one week than we usually gross in six weeks at the Stadium, but I never received more compliments from the customers nor do I know of any picture that gave me so much pleasure and satisfaction. I have just completed the engagement of "Best Years" at my Glencoe Theatre which follows the Stadium, and the experience was exactly the same, and I am positive we will have the same results in all the other theatres of my circuit.

Playing "The Best Years Of Our Lives" was one of the most profitable and pleasant experiences in all my years as an exhibitor. I consider it a privilege to have played "The Best Years Of Our Lives" and I honestly believe it is the greatest picture and the finest entertainment ever produced.

Sincerely yours,

Sam C Meyers

Sam C. Meyers

SCM:ev

New Filming Permit

(*Continued from page 1*)

of the city fire department to devise further methods to expedite production operations here. On Friday a similar meeting will be held with other city departmental officials, and next week two other such meetings are scheduled.

The special industry committee includes W. D. Kelly, Loew's; Hal Hode, Columbia; L. E. Thompson, RKO; and Tom Mead and Gilbert Kurland, Universal - International. Other industry representatives present at yesterday's meeting were Edward C. Dowden, Loew's; Douglas Travers and Harold Lewis, RKO Pathe; Thomas Murtha, state representative of the IATSE, and Sal Scoppa, representing the studio mechanics.

Maguire revealed that he plans to issue a set of simple rules and regulations governing the making of pictures in New York, this form to contain also the names of department representatives who are to be contacted by producers. The present street carnival permit, he said, requires the approval of the police, water, gas, electricity and housing and building departments and the Borough president. Under the new "motion picture permit" plan, approval will be made only by the police and will be issued by one individual, possibly in the traffic division of the police department, Maguire said.

Herald Pictures Granted 20 Permits for Harlem Filming

Permits for shooting more than 20 locations in Harlem have been granted Herald Pictures through the cooperation of city film coordinator Edward C. Maguire, it is disclosed by Herald president Jack Goldberg. Herald will use the streets of Harlem for backgrounds and locations for "Miracle in Harlem" which started before the cameras at Filmcraft Studios, in the Bronx, yesterday.

Admission Tax Cut

(*Continued from page 1*)

relief for corporations; little income tax reduction in the top brackets; putting the community property tax on a nationwide basis; and a slight boost in exemptions.

Of course, new developments in the general economic picture can cause these plans to be redrawn between now and early next year. But even if they are not, the reception which the Republican Congress will give such a Truman-sponsored program is not likely to be over-enthusiastic. The GOP leadership has made many promises for excise tax cuts during recent hearings here, but also favors heavy personal and corporate income tax cuts. There is some question of just what will get priority if the budget picture will not stand so much tax cutting. Moreover, many influential Republican tax-experts favor increased reliance on excise and sales taxes as a revenue-raising method.

FCC Sets Hearings On Radio Editorials

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The Federal Communications Commission will begin hearings next Jan. 12 on whether radio stations should be allowed to express editorial opinions. The FCC said it was ordering the hearings to meet increasing radio protests over a 1941 ruling which said "the broadcaster cannot be an advocate."

Review

"Caravan"

(*Rank-Eagle Lion*)

THE British have produced period films in the past with daring and skill, but "Caravan" does not match the past product, much as it seeks to combine the vintage flavor of 1830 British costume and custom with Spanish gypsy dances. The story creaks in spots, the dialogue is stilted, and several characterizations are swamped by a lack of restraint. At times, the picture totters on the verge of unwitting farce, and Stewart Granger, hero of the yarn, struggles manfully to keep the current moving.

Granger, a struggling writer, saves a Spanish jewel merchant who had been attacked by thugs in London. In return, the merchant, Gerard Hinze, agrees to publish Granger's book if the latter will deliver a valuable necklace to Spain. Dennis Price, a rival for the hand of Anne Crawford, betrothed to Granger, sends Robert Helpmann, an unsavory assistant, to shadow Granger and to arrange for Granger's death in Spain. Subsequently, Granger is wounded, losing his memory, and is befriended by a gypsy girl, Jean Kent, who falls in love with the English writer. Meanwhile, Miss Crawford, believing her lover dead, marries Price. The misunderstandings thicken and finally are cleared away in Spain, where the gypsy girl dies while protecting Granger from Price's attack, and Price meets his doom in quicksand. Arthur Crabtree directed, from a screenplay by Roland Pertwee, based on the novel by Lady Eleanor Smith. Harold Huth was the producer, and Maurice Ostrer was executive producer.

Running time, 84 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

DAVID A. GORDON

Club Leaders Will Aid Film Industry

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 8.—A group of club leaders has decided to offer "cooperation and aid in popularizing better motion pictures" after a forum at which the group cited the cooperation received from the industry in the past few years.

In a statement, the group declared that, "It is time we recognized the many problems besetting the motion picture industry."

The group plans a seminar, to be held on Sept. 11, at which the following forums will be conducted: "Motion Pictures and the Home," "Motion Pictures and the Church," "Motion Pictures and the School," "Motion Pictures and Recreation," and "Motion Pictures and Their Community Significance."

Leaders of the group include: Mrs. C. King, chairman of motion pictures for the Parent-Teachers Association; Mrs. Sylvain Abrams, chairman of motion pictures for the American Association of University Women; Mrs. Edith Riley, chairman of films for the Catholic Council; Mrs. Paul Alexander, president of the district Federation of Women's Clubs, and Margaret Girdner, director of visual education for San Francisco public schools.

Percentage Suits

(*Continued from page 1*)

ants submitted false reports of receipts on percentage pictures. Actual as well as punitive damages are sought in each complaint.

The exhibitors, William and Sidney Volk, have filed a single complaint in the same court against the four companies and also Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Universal and United Artists. The exhibitors' complaint asks that the court determine the validity of licensing contracts and that, pending the trial, the court enjoin the distributors from enforcing the contracts, and from bringing any action against the exhibitors to enforce an accounting, audit or damages.

Begin Work on N. Y.-Albany Coaxial Cable

Construction has been started on the first coaxial telephone cable to connect New York and Albany, by American Telephone and Telegraph, which owns the cable jointly with New York Telephone and New Jersey Bell Telephone. The cable is designed to supplement communication facilities between New York, Albany, Buffalo, Cleveland and Chicago.

In addition to supplementing long distance telephone facilities, the cable will also provide channels for carrying programs of the broadcasting networks. If desired, some of the coaxials could be adapted for television transmission by the addition of proper equipment.

Cost of the completed cable, together with its initial line and terminal equipment is estimated at about $4,000,000, which will be shared by the three.

Plan Television Relay

CHICAGO, Sept. 8.—Network television, including the televising of the national convention next summer, moved a step nearer realization for Chicago yesterday with the disclosure that Western Union is at work developing a microwave television relay system that will link mid-Western and Eastern cities.

New RCA Video Receiver

CAMDEN, N. J., Sept. 8.—RCA Victor has a new large-screen television receiver, providing pictures almost as large as a newspaper page and said to be about five times as bright as the average motion picture.

Somerville in RCA Post

H. V. Somerville has been named manager of the East Central region of RCA Victor by Harold M. Winters, director of distribution. Somerville will make his headquarters at Cleveland.

400 at NBC Convention

More than 400 National Broadcasting and affiliated stations' executives will attend the NBC convention at the Claridge Hotel at Atlantic City on Friday and Saturday.

Adjustment to Tax Seen by Sidney

Confidence that the majors will adjust themselves to developments abroad was expressed here yesterday by George Sidney, M-G-M director He pointed out, however, that the foreign tax situation may work devastating hardships on independents.

Regarding the cutting of production costs, Sidney declared the direct[illegible] help a lot by completing a [illegible] within shooting schedule. Sidney observed that while there has been a general tightening up in Hollywood there have been no sweeping curtailments.

Discussing trends in films, the director said the industry is now passing through what might be called "a stark realism period." He added however, that for enduring entertainment, "nothing can supplant the good old love story because that's the thing that hits close to home."

Sidney, who is here looking over picture possibilities, is scheduled to return to Hollywood today or tomorrow.

Recess Strike Talks

(*Continued from page 1*)

Carroll D. Kearns of Pennsylvania chairman of a Congressional subcommittee investigating the dispute, announced that the union official would meet again in Los Angeles o Oct. 20. Kearns said the conferee would again review the situation a first hand then, and added that hi impression of the conference wa that the union officials had mor views in agreement than in disagreement.

Attending the closed session in th Hotel Drake were: Richard F Walsh, international president of th IATSE; William L. Hutcheson president of the carpenters' union Lawrence Lindelof, president of th painters' union; Harvey Brown president of the machinists; Rober Byron, head of the sheet metal workers, and Judge Matthew M. Levy counsel for the IATSE. None of th union leaders would comment on th conference.

In view of the decision to reces until Oct. 20, it is not believed tha the jurisdictional squabble was discussed at the meeting here today c the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

Start Ad-Film Case

(*Continued from page 1*)

Commission on Friday, in an attemp to narrow the issues of the case.

Following the presentation of th stipulation, which will contain basic uncontested facts about the fou companies and their theatre contracts, the commission will hear ora argument on the case.

Spokesmen for the Commissio said that in the brief meeting thi morning attorneys for the film companies and the Commission agree on the basic statement of facts to b contained in the stipulation.

The four respondents are: Ray Bell Films, Inc., St. Paul; Alexander Film Co., Colorado Springs United Film Ad Service, Inc., Kansas City, and Motion Picture Advertising Service Co., New Orleans.

Ted Gamble

(*Continued from page* 1)

which will be held at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington on Sept. 19-20.

A "draft Gamble" campaign is said to be in the offing, since it appears likely that the Northwest theatre-owner and former national director of the U. S. Treasury's War Finance Division will have to be "pressured" into accepting the top spot in the Theatre Owners of America, the name which has been suggested for the new organization. Gamble has said on various occasions that he will not be a candidate for high office in TOA.

When the merger was first discussed last June, Mitchell Wolfson, executive of Wometco Theatres, Miami, had been mentioned prominently as a leading prospect for the presidency, but he has since flatly refused to be a candidate. A similar refusal has come from Si Fabian, present ATA president, who has said he will nevertheless work for the TOA and its objectives.

See Levy as General Counsel

Meanwhile, Herman Levy, general counsel of the MPTOA, is expected to be continued in the same capacity in the new organization. Robert Coyne, ATA executive secretary, is still being mentioned as the "logical candidate" for that post in the TOA, although he has disclaimed interest.

Between 400 and 600 are expected to attend the merger convention. Among the many industry problems included in the business agenda are: ASCAP's rate increase, admission taxes, freedom of the screen, public relations, road show exhibition policy, film exports as they affect domestic exhibition, and a variety of additional problems, Levy and Coyne, representing the managing board of the joint ATA-MPTOA directorate, have announced. Whether the new organization will have any specific plan for opposing the ASCAP tax will be determined only at the convention, Coyne said here yesterday.

Convention plans were completed in Washington last week at a meeting called by A. Julian Brylawski, convention chairman. Present were Sidney Lust, Frank Boucher, Gene Ford, Hardie Meakin, Harry Bachman, Morton Gerber, Carter Barron, Jack Foxe, Mrs. Sidney Lust, Mrs. Bernard Lust, Bill Hoyle and Henry Ferber.

Program for Convention

Convention registration will be held Sept. 13, to be followed in the evening with a pre-convention meeting of the respective boards of directors of ATA and MPTOA. First day of the convention will embody separate luncheons for man and women guests, an afternoon reception to be given by Herman Robbins and George Dembow of National Screen Service, an evening dinner-dance to which Hollywood stars, exhibition leaders, film company presidents and Washington officials have been invited. On the second day the local MPTOA will be host at a convention breakfast, the luncheon arrangement of the previous day will be repeated, new officers will be presented at the final business session, and, to climax the convention, there will be a supper dance in honor of the newly-elected president at which Charles L. O'Reilly, president, and Benjamin Sherman, executive vice-president of Sanitary Automatic Candy Co., and affiliates, will be host.

PCCITO Declines Bid To ATA-MPTOA Meet

Robert H. Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, has declined an invitation to attend the merger meeting of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association in Washington, on Sept. 19-20, due to previous engagements.

In his letter declining the invitation, Poole stated that PCCITO policy is opposed to affiliation with any national organization. He stated, however, that he would like to sit down with other exhibitor organization leaders in an effort to solve mutual problems.

Officials of Allied States had declined invitations to the MPTOA-ATA meeting earlier.

Exhibitors Warned

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitors have been "ambushed" into picture contracts they never would have agreed to sign "except on compulsion," ATOI charges that "the way by which these exhibitors were maneuvered into the snare was by such foul play that we refused to believe it was by deliberate intent."

"The decoy used is a hold date on an outstanding picture," it declares. "Deals for a number of other features are negotiated at the same time the contract is made on the hit picture. Now, pending approval of the deals, a hold date is set on the decoy picture. But for some reason or other the distributor's representative cannot seem to make up his mind whether or not to accept the license application of the exhibitor. Time goes by and the date in question is just a few days off.

"Perhaps the exhibitor already is running his trailer, his programs are distributed and he may have spent considerable money in additional advertising. At this point the distributor decides the deals are not acceptable and an ultimatum is issued to the exhibitor dictating what revised terms he must sign up for the pictures, or what additional pictures he must contract for if he is to get delivery of the feature whose playdate is right on top of him. Of course, all along he thought he had a deal that would be accepted in due time.

"Faced with this dilemma, the exhibitor usually feels he has no alternative except to agree to the new demands."

"These instances have been repeated often enough that we are ready to believe it is a planned stratagem," ATOI concludes.

Air Freight Cut

(*Continued from page* 1)

21 cents a ton mile, while before Aug. 1 they averaged 26½ cents.

The lines involved are United American and Pennsylvania Central. The action of these three lines may force the 14 other scheduled air lines to follow suit.

A bitter battle is expected to be waged against the proposed rates before the CAB by some of the non-scheduled airlines which are threatened with extermination by the still lower rates, and by the freight forwarders, which, it is said, also face being put out of business. The CAB now is supposed to be investigating complaints on this charge, made when the Aug. 1 reductions were approved.

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THEY PLAY ROUGH AND FOR KEEPS . . . paying off in lead and murder!
PRESTON FOSTER
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CHARLES COBURN
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Adapted from "THE PEOPLE'S ENEMY"
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62. NO. 50 — NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1947 — TEN CENTS

20th-Fox, RCA In Theatre Video Projects

Joint Program Will Be Centered in New York

Twentieth Century-Fox and the RCA Victor Division of RCA have signed a contract for a joint program of research on large-screen television, it was disclosed here yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president, and Frank M. Folsom, RCA executive vice-president in charge of RCA Victor.

The program follows closely the conclusion of an identical contract between RCA and Warner Brothers. The Warner project is being conducted on the West Coast, at Warner's Burbank studios. The 20th-Fox project will be centered in the film company's Movietone Newsreel studios here, according to Skouras.

Delivery of the first elements of

(*Continued on page* 10)

More Loans Seen in 20th-Fox Proxy

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 9.—A proxy statement filed by 20th Century-Fox with the Securities and Exchange Commission on Sept. 4, pertaining to the right to borrow up to $25,000,000 at any time or from time to time up to Sept. 15, 1950, indicates that the company anticipates additional borrowings may become necessary due primarily to the uncertainties facing the film industry in foreign distribution.

As a result of the import tax recently imposed by the British government, 20th-Fox has temporarily suspended further export of its films to Great Britain, and expects this sus-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Columbia Increases Shorts for '47-48

With the aid of some reissues, Columbia will raise its total of short subject releases by 36 one-reelers and four two-reelers in 1947-48. Color will play an increasing part, it was disclosed here yesterday when Maurice Grad, short subject sales manager,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Seek Coast Strike Peace in New Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—Plans for another meeting to attempt to settle the studio jurisdictional strike, slated for the next weekend, either in Chicago or here, have been revealed by Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions.

Sorrell said that William Hutcheson, president of the carpenters' union, and Lawrence Lindelof, president of the painters' union, have accepted invitations to attend, and that Edgar J. Mannix, M-G-M studio executive, or, possibly Y. Frank Freeman, president of the AMPP, will represent the producers. The attitude of Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, is not yet known.

MPTOA Asks Allied To Reconsider Bid

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 9.—Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, expressed the hope in a statement issued here today that Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States, and Abram Myers, chairman and general counsel, would reconsider their rejection of an invitation to attend the joint meeting of the MPTOA and American Theatres Association in Washington, on Sept. 19 and 20.

Wehrenberg said that whatever their reasons for refusing to attend, they are of less consequence than the importance of attaining joint action by exhibitors on industry problems "as threatening and devastating as the proposed Ascap increases" in theatre music licenses.

He pointed out that individual Allied units, as in Texas, have joined with other organizations to present a

(*Continued on page* 11)

Foreign Production Deals Are Set: Levey

Agreements for production abroad were secured by Jules Levey, independent producer, he disclosed here yesterday upon his arrival aboard the *SS Queen Mary.*

While Levey declined to discuss the agreements in detail, he said that they are "equivalent" to signed contracts, and that he planned to use a mixed cast of Hollywood and foreign players in his forthcoming foreign production. He added that he had two or three stories which might be utilized,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Ruling on UK Tax Status Still Pends

Washington, Sept. 9.—State Department lawyers are still examining the British ad valorem tax on films to determine whether it violates trade agreements, Department spokesmen said here today. Treasury spokesmen also said that no decision has yet been reached and added that none is in sight.

Canada Sees Need for Dollar Conservation

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—Finance Minister D. C. Abbott of the Canadian government has gone to England to discuss the monetary situation with the Labor Government and no restrictive action by Canada on imports from the United States is expected until after he reports back to the Canadian Cabinet. Abbott said before his departure, however, that Canada's dwindling dollar reserves would have to be conserved by some means.

Canadian film producers mostly of short subjects, have found that their product comes under the drastic British film levy as the Dominion, like the United States, is a dollar country. Film exports to Britain are expected to be curtailed, accordingly. A feature that may be affected in this respect is Quebec Productions' "Whispering City", world distribution rights of which had been bought by J. Arthur Rank.

UK Impasse Won't Hit MPF: Goldenson

The economic implications embodied in the British *ad valorem* tax impasse are not expected to adversely affect the $10,000,000 charity goal of the Motion Picture Foundation and its nationwide organizing effort, Leonard Goldenson, MPF national organizational chairman, declared here yesterday.

Reiterating his prediction, made at the annual convention of the Southeastern Theatre Owners in Miami last month, that an early October meeting of MPF's national trustees is likely, Goldenson said Denver, Milwaukee and Seattle organizational meetings will be held shortly and will be followed soon thereafter by organizational meetings in only a few yet-to-be-organized cities. Since mid-April,

(*Continued on page* 11)

ATA-MPTOA Set Meet With Ascap on Tax

Other Exhibitor Groups Urged to Participate

First to avail themselves of the "open-door" policy announced by the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers for discussion of its new theatre music licensing rate increases, officials of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association will confer here on Friday with Ascap.

Efforts are being made by ATA and MPTOA to obtain representation of all major exhibitor organizations at the meeting and in line with this invitations to participate have been sent to Jack Kirsch, president of Allied

(*Continued on page* 11)

Canada Owners Will Fight Music Tax Rise

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—Canadian theatres anticipate that an increase in music performing right fees will be asked by CAPAC when the present agreement expires on Dec. 31. A protest will be placed before the Copyright Appeal Board by exhibitors if a raise is proposed.

The Canadian Association of Composers, Authors and Publishers, Toronto, has been granted permission by the Copyright Appeals Board to raise its performing right fees for

(*Continued on page* 11)

D.C. Exhibitors Vote Anti-Ascap Action

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Another exhibitor organization went on record against Ascap's 300 per cent rate raise when the Theatre Owners of Metropolitan Washington voted unanimous-

(*Continued on page* 11)

In This Issue

"Ride the Pink Horse" is reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are reported on page 9.

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, board chairman of the American Theatres Association, will return to New York from Portland, Ore., on Friday.

•

Stanley Lawton, who was managing director of Keith-Albee music and stage presentations for the Greater New York area and later a Broadway exhibitor, has written a novel, "Her Secret World," to be published on Oct. 15.

•

Jules Lapidus, Warner Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, has left here on a Midwest trip, while Norman Ayers, Southern division manager, is on a trip to the South and Southwest.

•

Rudolph Weiss, head of the Warner Theatres real estate department, and Miles H. Alben, of the circuit's home office executive staff, left here last night for Cleveland.

•

Morey Goldstein, Allied Artists-Monogram general sales manager, left New York yesterday for Boston where he will remain several days.

•

Ray Milland will sail from England on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* tomorrow en route to Hollywood.

•

Walter E. Branson, RKO Radio Western division sales manager, is in Hollywood from New York.

•

Norman Elson, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, will leave New York for Boston tonight.

•

S. B. Van Delden, Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., is back in Atlanta after a trip through Florida.

•

Frank E. Cahill, Jr., Warner Theatres sound director, has returned here from vacation.

•

Frank Hensler, M-G-M Central division assistant manager, was a Kansas City branch visitor last week.

•

Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern district manager for Warners, was in New Haven yesterday from New York.

•

Hal Wallis returned to the Coast yesterday from New York.

•

Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, has returned here from Chicago.

'Joan' Release Deal Set by RKO Radio

Arrangements have been completed between N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO, and Walter Wanger, Ingrid Bergman and Victor Fleming, the triumvirate of Sierra Pictures, for the distribution of "Joan," it was announced here yesterday by RKO Radio.

With a screenplay written by Maxwell Anderson and Andrew Solt, filming will start on Sept. 16 at the Hal Roach Studio in Culver City. The film will be in Technicolor.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IN a handful of days, this has been happening: The Indiana and Iowa-Nebraska exhibitor associations are among those which have been hurling shot and shell at the advanced admission attraction. Not in keeping with the times, their position is.

The large independent circuit operated in the East by Si Fabian and Sam Rosen has refused to play "The Best Years of Our Lives" in its "A" theatres. While they declare they will establish fixed policy on the $1.20 type of film after proper study, the indication is their mind is made up: No dice.

The news columns were noting their general approach to this whole situation the other day. Fabian and Rosen liken the theatreman to the retail merchant who is best off when he stands by a fixed price policy. It can be high. It can be low. Or it can be somewhere in the middle ranges. But it cannot hop indiscriminately from rung to rung on the price ladder.

This seems sound enough.

■

What goes on at 20th Century-Fox where "Forever Amber" is concerned provides no solution for the yes-or-no of the high-tap attraction, but it ought to make many exhibitors feel better. The distributor expects, and is getting, preferred playing time. Of course, he is seeking choice play-dates wherever possible, but the usual Saturday and Sunday are not required. Andy Smith knows, as other sales managers obviously must know, that there are exhibitors who find their best days elsewhere in the week.

Therefore, it will be all right with Smith if the best "Amber" can get is time in the Monday-through-Friday range because—and here it is—20th-Fox is confident audiences will buy this attraction on any night.

■

If other distributors shared the same confidence in their advanced price releases and backed it up by a willingness to skip weekend playing time, it is possible exhibitor opposition to what is already an established selling trend might become less pronounced.

Untold numbers of patrons take in their picture show on Saturday and Sunday; they're working the rest of the week. Untold numbers, moreover, cannot afford to go more than once a week. At 40 or 50 cents or thereabouts, the tariff is one they are prepared to meet. At $1.20, it is not. They might even be willing to meet the hike to see the entertainment package so glitteringly offered at the higher price, but the question is whether can they afford it? The answer is they cannot.

■

Therefore, the theatreman is placing his regularly established weekend business in jeopardy when he tries to double his price, or approximately thereof. He runs the chance of estranging his regulars at his established scale and doing a disservice to the distributor and his $1.20 show at the same time.

On the other hand, if it should be true that the advanced price film is strong enough to bring them in no matter when it is shown, the distributor—provided he has that much confidence in his merchandise—stands to lose nothing by not insisting on weekend playing time. The exhibitor would keep his regulars from tearing up the seats [or staying away altogether which is worse] but get the stepped-up admission anyway from those willing and able to pay on any of the other five nights.

One of the unsettled questions brought into interesting focus by this swing toward advanced prices is the impression induced in the audience mind. This can go one of two ways. The more comfortable is to assume the public will conclude it is being offered something extraordinary enough to warrant the uppage. In some cases, values will bear out the conclusion.

But this business of singling out a handful of films above all others places the bulk of the product in the less comfortable position of being appraised as average or even as mediocrities. If the public determines to grade them that way, the reason will not be difficult to find.

■ ■

Independent operators are quite bitter over distributor insistence on their "A" theatres for the $1.20 show. With overhead, resistance to price, etc., they say the results are not worth the gamble. But what burns them chiefly is lack of insistence where many chains are concerned. In this, they are correct. "The Best Years" and "Duel in the Sun" have played a flock of circuit "B's". Many "A's", of course, but the "B's" have it.

Newsreel Parade

THE strife in India is a newsreel highlight in current releases. Other items include the birthday of the Dutch Queen, personalities in the news, varied sports, fashion news and the new Miss America. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 4—India torn by bitter strife. Science: mountain obse[illegible]tory films explosive activity of sun. [illegible]copter a success in "dusting" cotton. Miss America contest. Kids in Cleveland have blow-out with bubble gum. Sports: Army and Navy football training. AAU championship.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 202—Terror reigns in India. Personalities in the news: Gen. Omar Bradley, Field Marshal Montgomery. Adelaide Hawley introduces Miss America of 1947. Football in the air. Fishing. Diving champ.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 5—Football: Army and Navy get set. Berlin's biggest air shelter blasted. Montgomery in France. Nazi loot returned to Holland. Dutch hail Queen on her birthday. Beauties' own "world series": Mrs. America and Miss America.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 72—Civil strife rages in India. Italians cheer arrival of U. S. coal. "Monty" reviews new French army in training. England's tallest man. Tuna caught by the ton off Nova Scotia. Miss America.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 7—Some 15,000 singers salute Holland Queen. Model shows future Philadelphia. Armless painter makes a comeback. Dutch recover looted gems. Children's styles for fall and winter. Miss America.

Tri-State Convention In Memphis, Oct. 14-15

Memphis, Sept. 9.—R. X. Williams of Oxford, Miss., president of the Tri-State Motion Picture Theatre Owners, today called the annual 1947 convention for Tuesday and Wednesday, Oct. 14 and 15, at the Hotel Chelsea, Memphis, with all exhibitors and distributors invited.

Last year's meeting ended in confusion when Arkansas delegates tried to withdraw from the paying of dues to the MPTOA.

Plan Kentucky Meet for Oct. 22

Louisville, Sept. 9.—Plans are being completed by the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners for its convention which is to be held in Louisville starting Oct. 22.

Bell Succeeds Fields In Publicity Post

Ulric Bell has been appointed home office publicity manager for 20th Century-Fox by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity.

Bell joined the company last January, after a journalistic career. He succeeds Julius Fields, who resigned last week to enter business on his own.

Goetz Slated to Quit Republic Directorate

Hollywood, Sept. 9.—Harry Goetz and his associates will resign from the Republic board of directors, effective Sept. 25, it is understood here, following finalization of a deal under which Herbert J. Yates, Republic president, secures Goetz' stock holdings in the company.

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"SONG OF LOVE"

Katharine Hepburn • Paul Henreid
Robert Walker

OMING TO MUSIC HALL!

"THE UNFINISHED DANCE" TECHNICOLOR

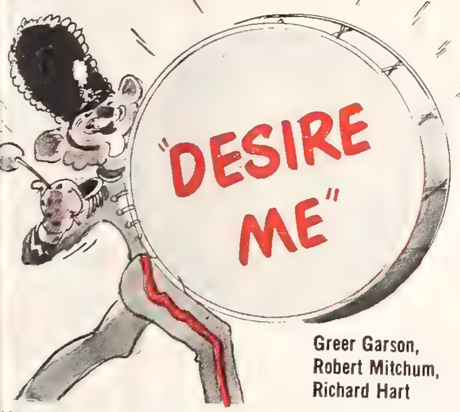
Margaret O'Brien, Cyd Charisse, Karin Booth, Danny Thomas

TEST ENGAGEMENTS BIG!

"SONG OF THE THIN MAN"

William Powell, Myrna Loy, Keenan Wynn

SONG OF THE BOX-OFFICE!



"DESIRE ME"

Greer Garson, Robert Mitchum, Richard Hart

REER GARSON'S GREATEST!

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"

Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart

ROAD-SHOW CALIBRE!

"THIS TIME FOR KEEPS"

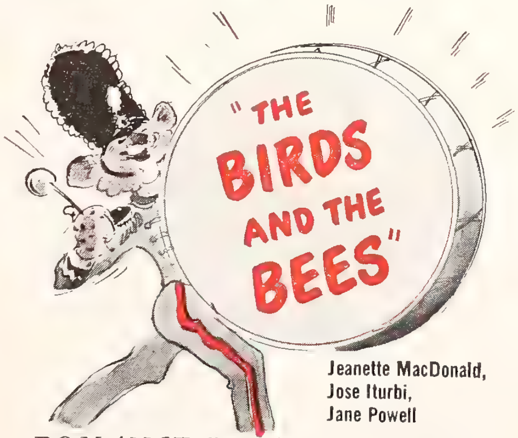
Esther Williams, Lauritz Melchoir, Jimmy Durante, Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat

BIG TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL!

"CASS TIMBERLANE"

Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner, Zachary Scott

T WILL MAKE HISTORY!



"THE BIRDS AND THE BEES"

Jeanette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell

ROMANCE IN TECHNICOLOR!

"GOOD NEWS" TECHNICOLOR

June Allyson, Peter Lawford

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Stanley Hand Heads Nu-Screen Sales

Stanley W. Hand yesterday became general sales manager of Nu-Screen Corp., here, headed by Herman Gluckman.

Hand, like many other young industry pioneers, started selling films with the old World Films, becoming its New England division manager. He also held executive sales posts in New York, New England and elsewhere in the East with Pathe, First National and Warner Brothers, and in 1928, in the first phase of sound-on-the-screen, became Eastern sales manager for Western Electric's Electric Research Products, taking over ERPI's Central division in Chicago in 1933.

Some three years later Hand was promoted to assistant general sales manager of ERPI, and when ERPI turned the theatre sound service business over to Altec Service Corp., he became executive staff representative in 1937. He was later given the added duties of advertising-publicity manager. In recent years Hand has been an executive consultant of Altec.

Fox Midwest Meet Opens in Missouri

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 9.—Expressing optimism on the coming fall season in view of the fine economic picture in the Midwest, E. C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest, today opened the 16th annual fall convention at the Muehlebach Hotel here. Some 150 managers, home office executives and staff members are attending.

Andrew W. Smith, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, was the only visiting speaker. He outlined the company's product for the season, emphasizing two roadshow attractions, "Forever Amber," which will have openings day and date on Oct. 19, and "The Captain from Castile."

Fox Midwest, the Midwest division of National Theatres was the winner of the fifth Charles Skouras Showmanship Campaign. The victory was celebrated with the handing out of bonuses to managers.

Paul Douglas to WB

Paul F. Douglas, formerly with United Artists, has been named Canadian field public relations representative for Warner Brothers, by Mort Blumenstock, national director of advertising-publicity. Douglas fills the vacancy created by the recent resignation of Glenn Ireton, and will work under Haskell Masters, Canadian district manager, and also under the home office supervision of William W. Brumberg, manager of the WB field staff.

Delay Nomikos Hearing

CHICAGO, Sept. 9.—Van A. Nomikos Theatres was granted another postponement in answering percentage charges of Paramount this morning, it was announced by Seymour Simon, attorney for the defendant. New date for the hearing is now Sept. 30.

J. G. Mayer Ill

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—J. G. Mayer, M-G-M studio executive and brother of Louis B. Mayer, is critically ill at his home.

Review

"Ride the Pink Horse"

(*Universal-International*)

SOMETHING of a one-man *tour de force* in acting and directing is turned in by Robert Montgomery in this high-voltage melodrama of a hunter who becomes the hunted. It is an arresting story of murder, blackmail and vengeance that grips the imagination and keeps up a sustained tone of excitement and intensity. Despite the grim realism, Montgomery's hard-working direction rarely skips an opportunity to balance things with comic flavoring and crisp dialogue. In this vehicle, the showman has a sure-fire picture that will keep the customers talking and recalling long after the curtain has been rung down.

The screenplay fashioned by Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer presents Montgomery in the role of an ex-thug and war veteran who comes to a little desert town in New Mexico to avenge a pal's murder and collect a payoff. Montgomery has in his possession an incriminating check with which he could send his man, a slick gangleader menace played by Fred Clark, to jail. Instead Montgomery seeks a $30,000 payoff. There follows first a hide-and-seek, and then a cat-and-mouse game, all designed to keep the patrons taut and engrossed. In a weaker moment, Montgomery falls for the enticements of the gangleader's moll, and winds up with a knife in his back. This provides the story with a unique, one-way love angle, as Wanda Hendrix, a wistful, kittenish native girl, mends his wounds and guards him from his assailants. Somewhat reminiscent of "Odd Man Out," Montgomery takes on the outlines of a wounded animal, stalked relentlessly by his hunters.

Set against the background of a town all aflutter with the excitement of an annual fiesta, the picture gets its title rather irrelevantly from a merry-go-round horse which Miss Hendrix happens to ride. As the film rolls on to its off-the-beaten path climax, many memorable characterizations emerge. There are Thomas Gomez as the rotund, affable Pancho who befriends Montgomery; Andrea King, a woman of sophisticated guile; and Art Smith, a patient government detective. Others outstanding in support are the already mentioned Clark and Miss Hendrix. Joan Harrison produced, from the novel by Dorothy B. Hughes.

Running time, 101 minutes. General audience classification. Set for October release.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Piccadilly Trust Suit Settled Out of Court

CHICAGO, Sept. 9.—After almost six years of litigation, the anti-trust suit in behalf of the Piccadilly Theatre by the Schoenstadt circuit against distributing companies and Balaban and Katz and Warner Brothers circuits, was settled out of court, with the case being dismissed by Circuit Judge Phillip Sullivan today.

According to Aaron Stein, attorney for the plaintiff, the case "was settled to the mutual satisfaction of all concerned, with the Piccadilly finally getting the playing position it is entitled to."

Terms of the settlement provide that the Piccadilly will have first-run on the South Side, playing WB and RKO Radio product day and date with the WB Avalon Theatre and clear of the B. and K. Tivoli and Southtown. On all other product, the Piccadilly will play day and date with the Avalon and Southtown immediately following the Tivoli.

No information was available regarding any monetary settlement. Schoenstadt sought $3,750,000 damages.

Schwartz Gets Delay On Cleveland Levy

CLEVELAND, Sept. 9.—Action of the City Council finance committee on a municipal amusement tax measure was postponed to Sept. 22 when Ernest Schwartz, Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association president, said he had insufficient notice of the tax hearing to adequately represent motion picture interests. He asks that further evidence of an amusement tax need be presented to the committee before Council action is taken and that any measure providing for a proposed three per cent tax be amended to include other amusements.

Franconi and Green Start Buying Unit

DALLAS, Sept. 9.—Theatre Service Corp., buying-booking combine, chartered in June, has begun operations here.

Ed V. Green, buyer and booker, has resigned as branch manager of Favorite Film of Texas to become general manager of United. John L. Franconi is president. A group of film men completes the roster of stockholders.

"Purpose of the new suit is to meet the growing consciousness and the developing demand among exhibitors for a highly specialized service to them on buying and booking requirements, demands growing out of the shifting complexities under which the industry now works," it was said.

Green has returned from visits to Bert M. Stearn and Harry E. Long, in Pittsburgh, operators of the Co-Operative Theatres Service, Inc., and to Milton L. Mooney, Cleveland, head of Cooperating Theatres of Ohio. These two serve upwards of 300 theatres, and Green studied the plans and methods of the units to incorporate phases into the developed plans of United. Green will devote his time exclusively to United.

Bunin Financing Set

Financing has been completed for Lou Bunin's Paris-produced, American color production of "Alice In Wonderland," which is being directed by Dallas Bower. Budget for the Bunin film, which combines three-dimensional animation with live action, has been set at 153,000,000 francs (about $1,500,000). Producer Bunin is now at work in Paris with a staff of 24 American artists and technicians. Union Generale Cinematographique, French producing-distributing concern, is cooperating.

SWG Asks 'Royalty' Fee of 1% of Gross

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—Overriding the opposition of its president, Emmet Lavery, the Screen Writers Guild membership has approved a proposal calling upon film producers to allocate one per cent of annual gross to SWG.

The plan, advocated by Ring Lardner, Jr., in the August edition of [illegible] guild magazine, is based on estim[illegible] figures showing that writers in 1946 received approximately one per cent of the industry's estimated $1,800,000,000 domestic gross, and seeks a routine allocation of one per cent to the guild, with individual writers continuing to receive their payment as usual.

Under the plan, disposition of the funds received would be at the discretion of the SWG executive board.

Petrillo Postpones F-M Music Request

CHICAGO, Sept. 9.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, declares here that the union's directors would decide "within two or three days" a renewed request by major radio networks for simultaneous standard and frequency modulation use of union music.

A union conference here yesterday with network heads sought "a satisfactory solution" to the request previously rejected by Petrillo, and also discussed union-network wage and working condition contracts expiring next Jan. 31.

Asks Certification of 'IA' Local by NLRB

Conferences will be held by the Motion Picture Home Office Employes Union, Local No. H-63, IATSE, with Richard F. Walsh, president of the "IA", following the action of Consolidated Film Laboratories, Fort Lee, N. J., in requesting that the union be certified as collective bargaining agent for 50 employes before the National Labor Relations Board.

The situation is one of the first affecting new 'IA' organization since the passage of the Taft-Hartley law. Negotiations were suspended following the company request for formal certification, before bargaining for a contract.

SOPEG Starts Wage Talks Here Today

Negotiations for wage increases for 2,500 home office employes under a wage reopening clause will begin this afternoon at the Hotel Astor here between the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild and company representatives.

SOPEG seeks a 30 per cent boost, or $10 weekly, whichever is higher The present contract expires next September.

Triangle to Goldwyn Lot

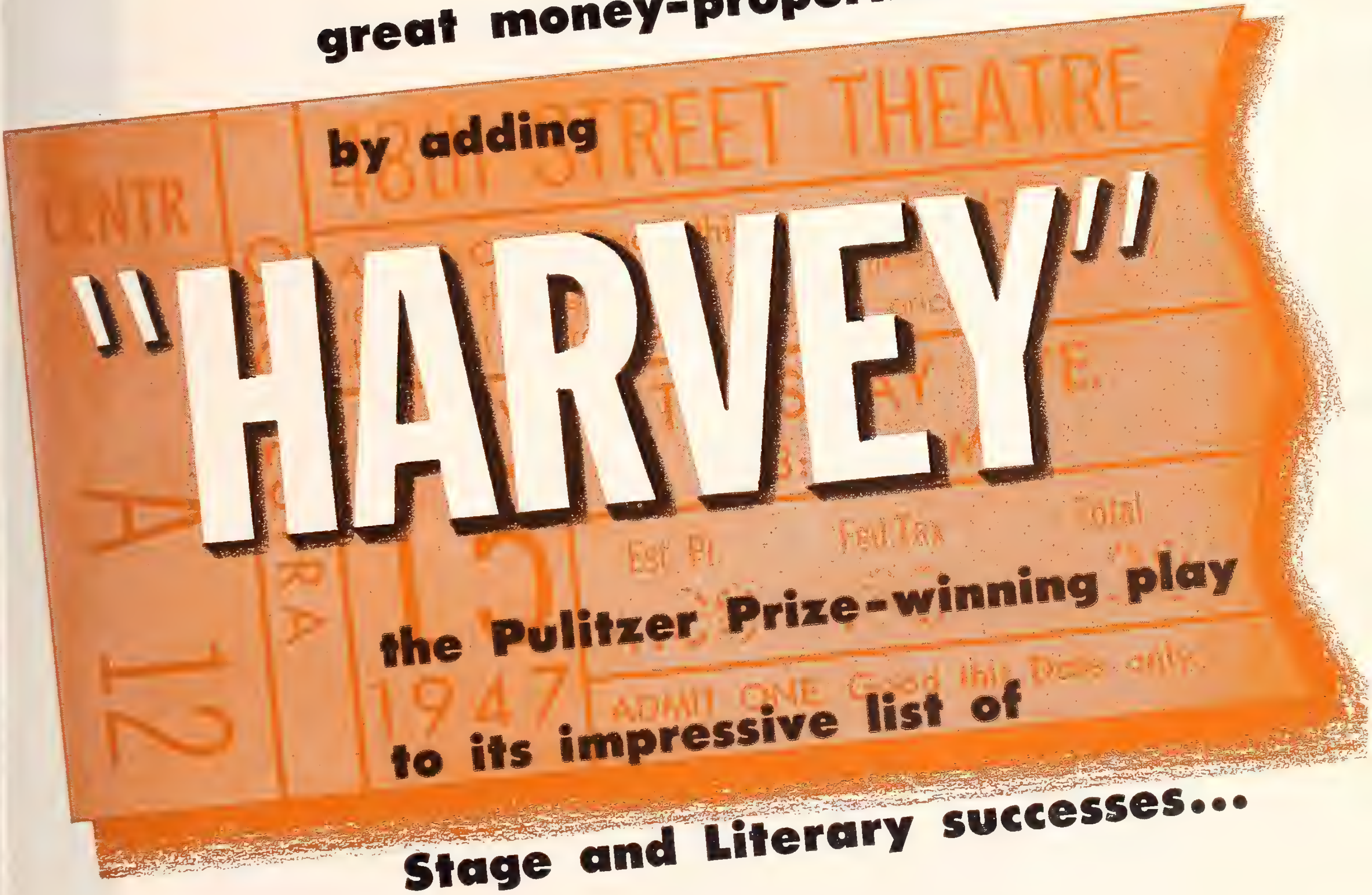
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—Triangle Productions has transferred production from the Hal Roach Studios to the Goldwyn Studios. All executive, production and publicity personnel are involved in the switch. The company is headed by Mary Pickford, Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn.

Universal-International

Universal-International backs up its belief in great money-properties by adding

"HARVEY"

the Pulitzer Prize-winning play to its impressive list of Stage and Literary successes...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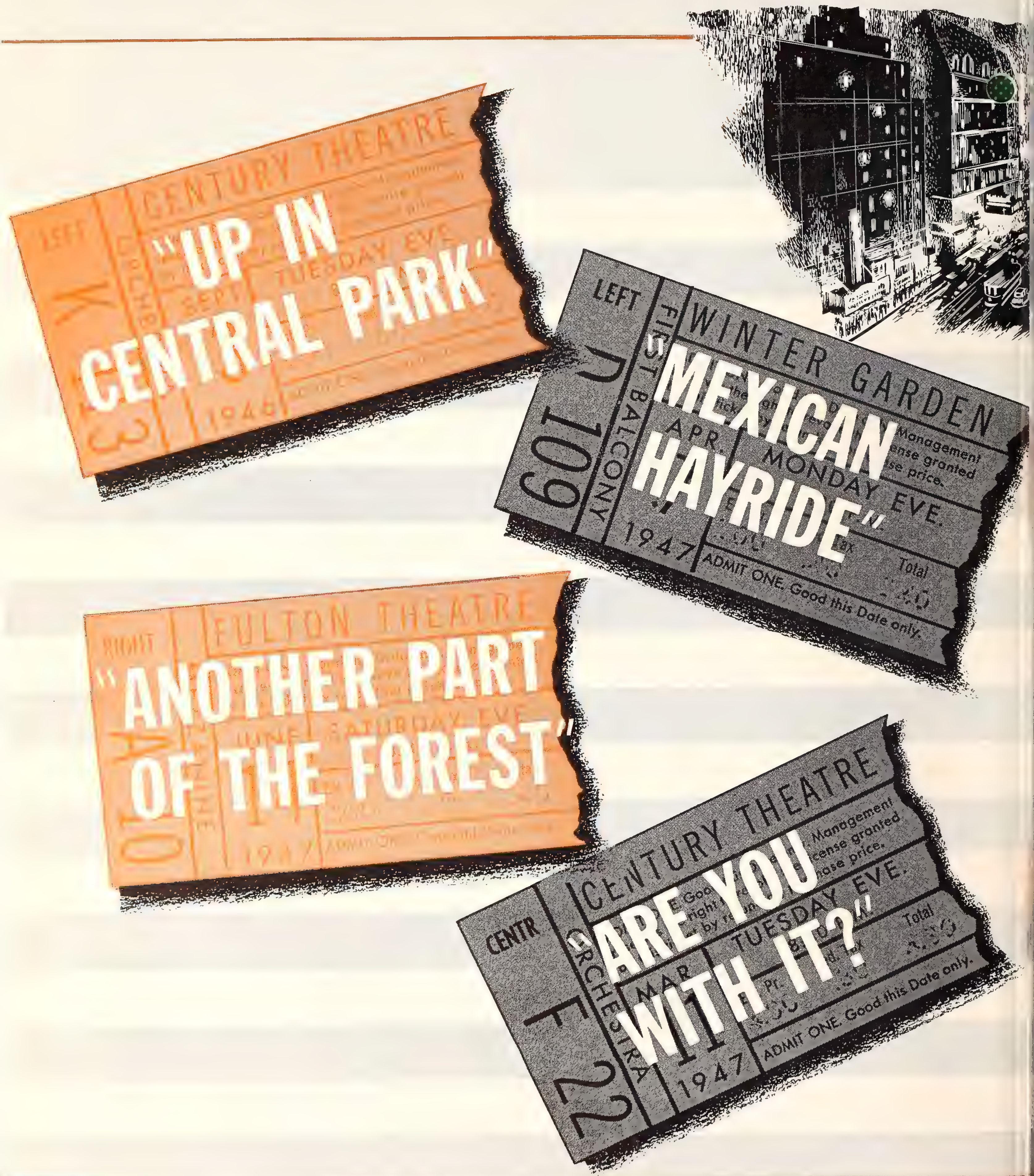
U-I is preparing for the scree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"ARE YOU WITH IT?"
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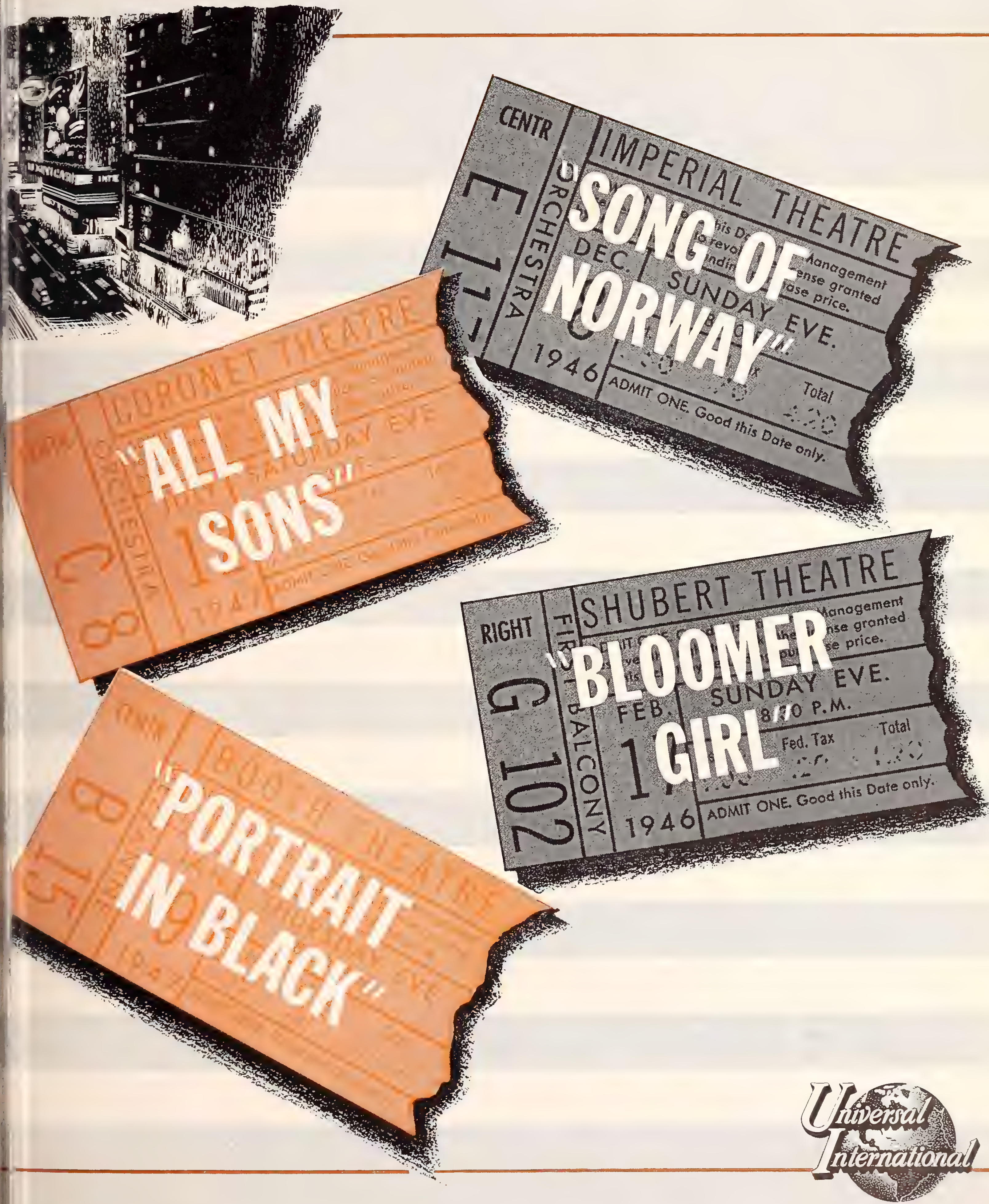
such Broadway stage hits as . . .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"PORTRAIT IN BLACK"
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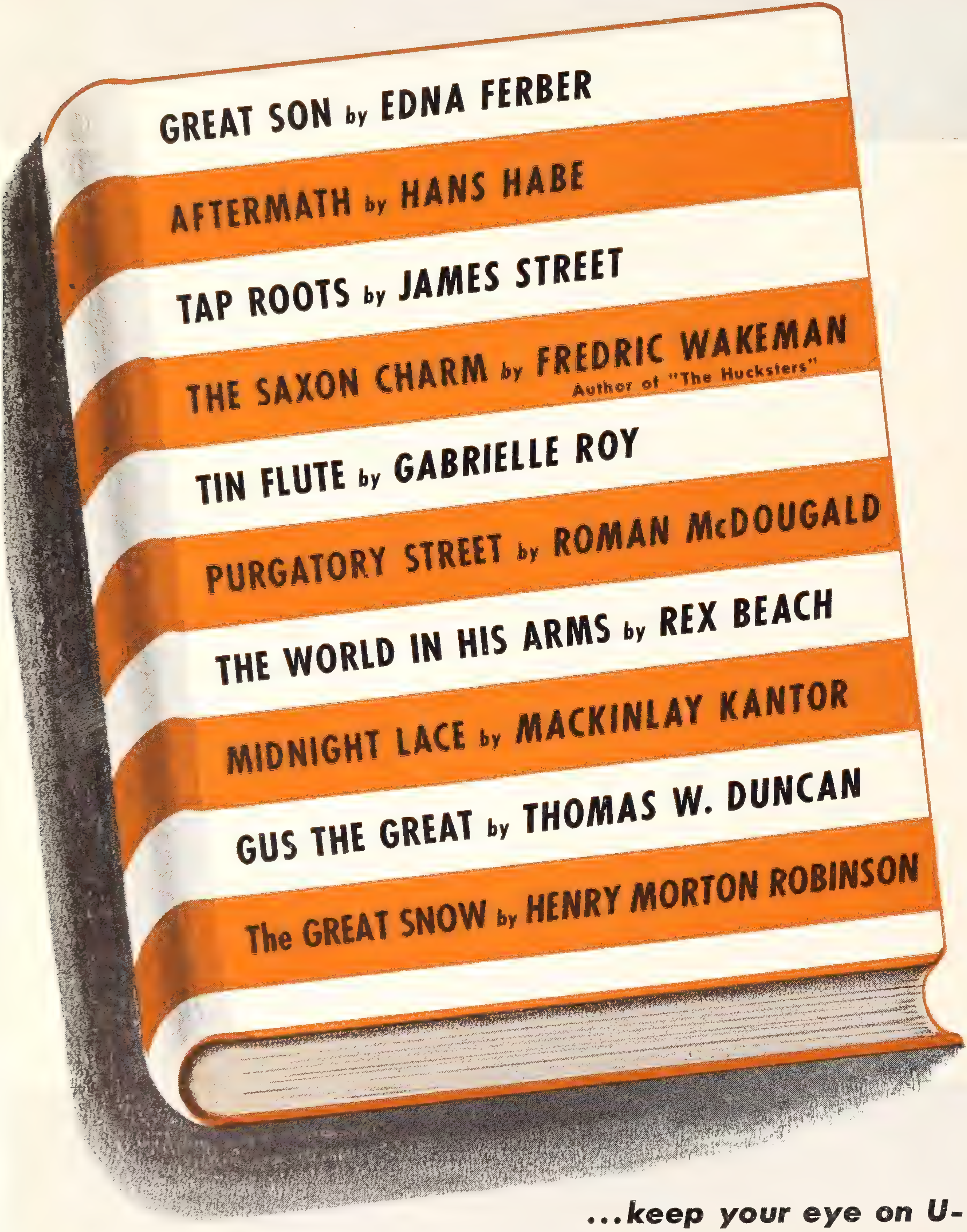
Universal International

....and the BEST in BOOKS....soon to become the BEST in MOTION PICTURES!


GREAT SON by EDNA FERBER
AFTERMATH by HANS HABE
TAP ROOTS by JAMES STREET
THE SAXON CHARM by FREDRIC WAKEMAN
Author of "The Hucksters"
TIN FLUTE by GABRIELLE ROY
PURGATORY STREET by ROMAN McDOUGALD
THE WORLD IN HIS ARMS by REX BEACH
MIDNIGHT LACE by MACKINLAY KANTOR
GUS THE GREAT by THOMAS W. DUNCAN
The GREAT SNOW by HENRY MORTON ROBINSON

...keep your eye on U-I

Universal International

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Further Drop In Production As 11 Finish

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9.—Production continues to fall off slightly as 11 films went to cutting rooms last week. The new productions before the cameras numbered eight, making the index only 32 pictures shooting, against 36 during the previous week. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Whirlwind Raiders," with Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette. "Mary Lou," with Frankie Carle's orchestra, Joan Barton, Glenda Farrell, Thelma White.

Finished: "Glamour Girl," "Blondie's Anniversary."

Shooting: "A Little Spanish Town."

Eagle-Lion

Shooting: "Prelude to Night," "Northwest Stampede," "Enchanted Valley," "Open Secret."

Finished: "Tornado Range."

M-G-M

Finished: "On an Island with You."

Shooting: "Homecoming," "Luxury Liner."

Monogram

Started: "A Palooka Named Joe," with Leon Errol, Joe Kirkwood, Elyse Knox. "The Old Gray Mayor," with Freddie Stewart, June Preisser, Noel Neill, Gene Krupa's Band.

Finished: "The Man from Powder River," "Rocky," "The Quest of Willie Hunter," "The Red Hornet."

Paramount

Started: "The Long Gray Line," with Alan Ladd, Donna Reed.

Shooting: "The Paleface."

Republic

Started: "End of the Rainbow," with William Lundigan, Charles Winninger, Gail Patrick, Gene Lockhart.

Finished: "Slippy McGee."

20th-Fox

Shooting: "The Snake Pit."

RKO-Radio

Shooting: "I Remember Mama." "The Miracle of the Bells," "Station West," "Good Sam," "Berlin Express" (on Germany location), "Rachel," "Race Street."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

United Artists

Finished: Hopalong Cassidy No. 12.

Universal-International

Finished: "A Double Life."

Shooting: "A Letter from an Unknown Lady," "The Naked City," "Mortal Coils."

Warners

Started: "Johnny Belinda," with Jane Wyman, Lew Ayres, Charles Bickford. "To the Victor," with Dennis Morgan, Viveca Lindfors.

Shooting: "Christopher Blake," "April Showers."

Independent

Shooting: "War Party" (Argosy). "The Tender Years" (Alson).

Trammell to Open NBC Convention

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 9.—At least 160 of National Broadcasting's 167 stations will be represented at the company's annual convention which will open here Friday morning at the Hotel Claridge, with an address of welcome by Niles Trammell, NBC president.

The morning session will be open to press and guests, but all other sessions, through Saturday afternoon, will be closed, for NBC delegates and delegates of affiliates only. Following Trammell, the Friday opening session will hear Charles G. Mortimer, chairman of the Advertising Council; Sigurd S. Larmon, president of Young and Rubicam, and Neil McElroy, general manager of Proctor and Gamble. Friday's luncheon will be open to press and guests, and so will dinner Friday evening, luncheon on Saturday and dinner that evening. Kent Cooper, executive director of Associated Press will address Friday's luncheon, and David Sarnoff, president of RCA, will speak at lunch on Saturday.

On Friday afternoon, Ken R. Dyke will discuss "Program Standards and Practices", with Paul W. Morency, chairman of the NBC stations planning and advisory committee, presiding.

On Saturday morning, there will be a discussion between affiliates and executives of the company on topics proposed by station representatives in their closed meeting on the previous afternoon.

"Television Operations" will be discussed Saturday afternoon by Frank E. Mullen, NBC vice-president. This will be followed by a question-and-answer session on television and frequency-modulation.

80 Regular Sponsors Of Television Shows

Farnsworth Radio and Television Corp. introduced its first television receivers to the market. At meetings in New York and Philadelphia, the new models were shown by Farnsworth's president, E. A. Nicholas. The receiver provides a direct-view picture on a 10-inch mirror-backed tube. The picture is 52 square inches.

Nicholas said there are now 75,000 television receivers of all types in operation in the country, more than half in the New York area. He said there are now more than 80 regular sponsors of television programs, an increase of 70 per cent since March.

Production of 50,000 television receivers with a retail value of approximately $25,000,000 is planned by Farnsworth during the next year, it was disclosed.

75c W.E. Dividend

Western Electric's board of directors has declared a dividend of 75 cents per share on outstanding capital stock, payable on Sept. 30 to stockholders of record on Sept. 24. The company declared a dividend of 62½ cents per share on June 10.

Cancels Film Booking

MEMPHIS, Sept. 9.—Booking of "Hal Roach Comedy Carnival" has been cancelled here by Loew's State. The action followed numerous cuts made by the Memphis Board of Censors.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"Gone With the Wind," heading for double the RKO Grand average is outdistancing all competitors in a week in which grosses generally are on the upsurge. Weekend weather was fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 9-12:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—RKO PALACE (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75) 3rd week, on a moveover from the Grand, following its opening week at the Albee. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $8,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—RKO CAPITAL (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average at prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75: $10,000)

SLAVE GIRL (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,500)

STEPCHILD (Eagle-Lion)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (39c-40c-50c) 3 days, dualed with **WEST TO GLORY (Eagle-Lion).** Gross: $1,150. (Average: $1,100)

THUNDER MOUNTAIN (RKO-Radio)—RKO FAMILY—(1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **PACIFIC ADVENTURE (Col.)** Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000)

PITTSBURGH

"Life with Father" and "Down to Earth", at the Warner and Senator theatres, respectively, are topping the holdover class. "Life with Father", in for an indefinite run, is smashing all records, while "Down to Earth" ran two weeks at the J. P. Harris and was held over for a third by moving to the Senator. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 11:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,700)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 3rd week on moveover from J. P. Harris. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average at regular prices: $8,000)

RAMROD (UA)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,200)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

BALTIMORE

Where new and strong attractions are showing, capacity audiences are sending box-office figures far above average. Openings were big and a cloudy weekend was favorable to filmgoing. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 11:

ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO-Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $11,500)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c) With a stage show. 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $17,500)

FANTASIA (RKO-Radio)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c and-45c weekends) Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,500)

ATLANTA

In general, business is holding up in a week of very hot weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 10:

DESERT FURY (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c) Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

HONEYMOON (RKO-Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c) Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,900)

HOLLYWOOD BARN DANCE (Screen Guild)—CAPITAL (2,446) (30c-60c) Plus stage show. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $5,500 without stage shows)

LIVING IN A BIG WAY (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c) Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,600. (Average: $5,700)

TORONTO

Substantial activity was noted around Toronto first-run theatres as the new season worked up steam. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 11:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,400)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $18,300. (Average: $13.800)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $7,800)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: 8.000. (Average: $9,500)

THE SEA HAWK (WB re-issue) and **THE SEA WOLF (WB re-issue)**—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,000)

THE SEA HAWK (WB re-issue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB re-issue)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,800)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $14,300)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16.000. (Average: $14,800)

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Bulgaria Approves MPEA Film Pact

The Bulgarian government has ratified the film distribution agreement negotiated by the Motion Picture Export Association with Filmsko Delo, the state-owned film monopoly of that country, MPEA reported here yesterday.

Official approval of the pact, details of which were finalized several weeks ago, opens the doors of some 300 Bulgarian theatres to major American films for the first time since 1940.

Inaugurating the MPEA release program in that country is Paramount's "So Proudly We Hail," which was scheduled to open last night at Sofia's Modern Theatre. This is the first of 20 features selected from the product of MPEA's member companies for distribution in that country within the next six months under the terms of the interim agreement.

Local announcement of the MPEA-Bulgarian film pact, MPEA reports, was hailed by the Bulgarian press, reflecting the sentiments of Sofia's film fans with whom Hollywood pictures have always enjoyed favor.

Jean Birkhahn is MPEA representative in Sofia.

Box Signs March to Star in 'Columbus'

LONDON, Sept. 9.—The signing of Fredric March to star in "Christopher Columbus," Technicolor production here, was announced today by Sydney Box, production chief at J. Arthur Rank's Gainsborough studios.

Box, questioned concerning rumors of an arrangement with James Mason, said it was unlikely that Mason would play here or in America pending settlement of the lawsuit brought by David Rose. He admitted, however, that he discussed a production deal with Mason, involving 500,000 pounds ($2,000,000). Box added that he understood Mason had already contracted with Sir Alexander Korda for two pictures following the lawsuit, which, if implemented, will hold up Box's plans.

Franke to Film Classics

Fred W. Franke has joined Film Classics here as a traveling auditor. He was formerly associated with Universal in a similar capacity and with Republic Pictures in an executive post.

Amory with Greenthal

Charles M. Amory is now associated with Monroe Greenthal Co., Inc. as account executive on Eagle-Lion Films, Pathe Industries and Subsidiaries.

SIMPP Meets Here on British Tax Impasse

The British tax situation and the extent to which it will affect production operations of independent producers was the principal subject on the agenda of a meeting held here yesterday between Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and independent production company executives in the offices of Samuel Goldwyn Productions.

The meeting, which continued until a late hour last night, is expected to be resumed today. At the conclusion of today's session, Nelson will entrain for Washington where he will confer with Government officials on the British tax impasse.

Levey's Foreign Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

and that the site of his filming might be either France or Italy.

Levey felt that his production program abroad could be carried through despite the British tax situation, although he said he realized that the situation is not helpful.

He reported that there is much so-called "agitation" in England against U. S. films, but that, unofficially, 90 per cent of the British people prefer to see American films. Levey added that he does not believe the British industry can "get along" without American films.

Levey visited France, Italy, England, Sweden and Denmark. Belgium and Sweden are in "good shape," economically, Levey said, and Italy "is not doing badly" as far as the film industry is concerned.

William Wyler and Wife Arrive Aboard Queen Mary

William Wyler and his wife, Margaret Tallichet, arrived here yesterday aboard the *SS Queen Mary,* following a motor trip of Europe.

After a few days here, they will return to Hollywood where Wyler will soon start directing for Paramount.

Military Withdraws Unsuitable Films

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—Most of the old German films considered unsuitable for distribution have been withdrawn from circulation in Germany, under an agreement concluded by British and American military authorities, the War Department reported.

The Department also announced that production has begun in the British zone on two new features, "Noah's Ark" and "Men in God's Hands." Both are being produced by Real Films Co.

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Argentine Burdened Our Films, Says US

WASHINGTON, Sept. 9.—The U. S. motion picture industry was discriminated against in Argentina in half-a-dozen different ways even before the Argentine government clamped on its import ban, a Department of Commerce report shows.

The report, made public here today, was prepared by Nathan D. Golden, the Department's motion picture consultant. It lists these specific examples of discrimination:

Rebate of municipal taxes to exhibitors in proportion to the amount of time devoted to Argentine pictures; an interpretation of the surtax charge on film imports to base the tax on remittances rather than a fixed charge per foot; a decree requiring theatres to devote from 11 to 40 per cent of their playing time to Argentine films; a requirement that all theatres exhibit at least one nationally-produced news reel or documentary at each performance; decrees imposing higher income taxes on 50 per cent of all remittances, "a percentage far in excess of charges assessed against any other industry or commercial enterprise"; and, a sales tax of 1.25 per cent of value on sales of imported film accessories.

The report says there is a possibility the law giving a rebate of municipal taxes for showing national pictures may be abolished in the near future, since the government needs the money.

Though the Supreme Court is expected to follow a series of earlier rulings and declare the higher income tax rates illegal, the report says, such a ruling will have little value, since the Argentine government in the past has not repaid any excess taxes paid by U. S. film companies, and since "each decision of the court has been followed by a new act imposing increased taxes."

Despite these restrictions, the report declares, U. S. films have dominated Argentine screens in the past years, accounting for 310 of the 447 features shown in 1946. The six larger Argentine firms, which are accounting for 85 per cent of the films produced there, turned out 19 features in 1945 and 28 in 1946, according to the survey. They plan 60 during the current year.

Golden finds that the number of theatres in Argentina has increased from 1,611 in 1944 to 1,770 as of Jan. 1, 1947, with Buenos Aires accounting for 201. Audiences were reported as having increased from 69,800,000 persons in 1944 to 89,100,000 in 1946.

India Film in Canada

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—The growing international flavor of films was reflected in the invitation screening of "Shahjehan", made by Kardar Productions, in Bombay, at J. Arthur Rank's Fairlawn Theatre, here, when more than 400 diplomatic representatives and government and community leaders were guests of the Government of India.

'Father's House' Sept. 25

"My Father's House," feature-length film made in Palestine, will have its world premiere at the Ambassador Theatre here on Sept. 25. Produced by Herbert Kline and Meyer Levin, the film is based on the recently published novel by Levin.

20th-Fox Proxy

(*Continued from page* 1)

pension will continue while the tax remains in effect.

In 1946, approximately $16,690,000 of the company's foreign income came from sales and rentals of films and accessories in Britain, the statement says, with about $7,300,000 of last year's profits accounted for by revenue from Britain. Corresponding figures for the 26 weeks ended June 28, 1947, were approximately $7,280,00[illegible]d $3,000,000 respectively.

British currency difficulties have also had repercussions in other parts of the world, and movements of funds into this country may be further restricted, the company states, adding that it believes these and other contingencies may make it desirable to borrow additional sums.

As consideration for the commitment of the banks under this credit agreement, the company has agreed to pay a commitment fee from Sept. 4, 1947 to Sept. 14, 1950, computed at the rate of one-quarter of one per cent per annum on the daily average unused amount of commitment. This may be reduced at any time by a payment of a termination fee of one-eighth of one per cent of reduction.

20th-Fox RCA Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

large-screen equipment developed by the RCA engineering products department in its Camden television laboratories, will begin in the early fall. In addition to equipment, RCA will also furnish technical and research information, and will provide engineering personnel experienced in both television and theatre equipment.

Earl I. Sponable, 20th-Fox technical director, who negotiated the contract with Barton Kreuzer, manager of RCA film recording activities, will supervise the research.

"Developments in television have reached a point where they can be of definite service to the motion picture industry," Folsom said. "Practical tests and experiments will determine how television can be used for the best interest of the film industry and the theatre-going public."

3-Run Canadian Deal

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—National Theatre Services, of which Sam Fingold is president, has acquired the Gregory theatres in Oakville, Acton and Georgetown, from R. L. Gregory who has announced his retirement after more than 30 years in the theatre business. National Theatre Services operates the Ontario "B" circuit of Odeon Theatres of Canada.

UN Film to Allen

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—"The People's Charter", first release from the United Nations Film Board, has been secured for Canadian distribution by I. H. Allen, president of Astral Films, Toronto. The short is currently having its initial Canadian showing at Famous Players' Regent Theatre in Ottawa.

RKO Jefferson to Reopen

The RKO Jefferson Theatre here, which has been renovated, will be reopened Saturday. Introducing a new entertainment policy, the theatre will present vaudeville shows in addition to the regular double feature program.

Columbia Shorts

(*Continued from page* 1)

announced that 24 color reels will be issued, an increase of 14 over the current year, and that the entire program will run to 28 two-reelers, 84 single reels and three serials.

The "Three Stooges" will make eight two-reel comedies, while 10 two-reel "All-Star" and 10 two-reel "Assorted Comedies" are also on the program. The "All-Stars" will feature [illegible]y Von Zell, Sterling Holloway, [illegible] Clyde and Joe De Rita. Gus Schilling and Dick Lane, Hugh Herbert, Vera Vague and Eddie Foy, Jr., will appear in the "Assorted Comedies."

The color cartoons will include eight "Color Rhapsodies," eight "Color Phantasies" and eight "Color Favorites," an increase of 14 color reels over last year. The "Color Favorites" will be a series of re-releases, chosen from the "Color Rhapsodies" of previous seasons. A new main title, new prints and new advertising material will be prepared for each.

The "Thrills of Music" series, inaugurated last year, will have 12 releases instead of last year's eight. In line with this series' introduction of the "disc-jockey" technique to shorts, Fred Robbins has been signed to appear in the series.

The "Screen Snapshots" series are continued. Twelve are set for the new season, compared with last year's 10. Bill Stern, sportscaster, will narrate all 12 of the Sportreels, two more than last year. The "Community Sing" series will contribute 12 reels, two more than last season.

A new series, "Film Novelties," will be added to the schedule, the new series consisting of 12 one-reelers dealing with various topics.

Three serials are set for the year, with "The Sea Hound," featuring Buster Crabbe, based on the radio and cartoon magazine character. "Brick Bradford" will be the second chapter play, based on the King Features cartoon. "Tex Granger" will be the third, a Western based on the cartoon strip appearing in "Calling All Boys," comic book sponsored by Parents' Institute.

UK Impasse-MPF

(*Continued from page* 1)

when area organizational activity got underway, some 406 MPF committeemen have been named in 23 cities, and 39 national trustees and area chairmen have been elected to head their respective units.

Goldenson pointed out that only after national trustees have been named for all of the 31 areas will a place and exact date be decided upon for holding the national trustees meeting.

He said there has been no indication from any quarter that the British tax situation will retard MPF activity or cause its philanthropic sights to be lowered.

Polio Hits Film Clubs

TORONTO, Sept. 9.—Saturday morning "movie clubs" are not being restarted, after a summer lapse, in some situations of Western Canada, where the prevalence of poliomyelitis is comparatively pronounced. The action is voluntary because health officers have not yet imposed restrictions on public gatherings. The situation is more normal in Eastern Canada where theatre clubs are being reorganized.

K-MTA Convention to Weigh Ascap Fight

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 9.—The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers' new licensing fee will be among the principal topics to be considered at the annual convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association Sept. 31-Oct. 1, the K-MTA board of directors decided today at a meeting here. Combatting of the Ascap fee along the lines of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners Association program is indicated.

The tight popcorn supply situation also looms as an important convention topic. A survey is being made of exhibitors' requirements, with an eye to convention action for securing an adequate supply.

Canada Music Fee

(*Continued from page* 1)

the current year from the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. from three cents to seven cents per radio receiving set. Private stations, through the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, previously had agreed with CAPAC for a fee increase from 5 cents to seven cents for five years.

In its decision, the board ruled that $245,608 could be collected by CAPAC this year from broadcasters, the amount to be divided equally between CBC and the private companies. Broadcast Music, Inc. was awarded $26,315 in fees from private broadcasters; previously the BMI annual fee from the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. had been fixed at $17,500.

D. C. Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

ly to work for a change in the present copyright law.

At a meeting held today, the organization declared that "either an agreement be made with Ascap on a reasonable basis or their power to tax theatres and producers for the inclusion of copyright music in motion pictures be entirely withdrawn."

It was recommended that Ascap's rate raise be discussed at the convention of the Motion Picture Theatres Owners of America and the American Theatres Association to be held here, Sept. 19 and 20, with a view of bringing Ascap's action to the attention of Congress.

Foundation in N. Y. Will Elect Friday

The 17 recently-elected committeemen of the Motion Picture Foundation of the Metropolitan New York area will meet here Friday morning in the Cinema Circuit office of Max Cohen to elect a national trustee and a permanent chairman for this area; Cohen is temporary chairman here.

Besides Cohen, the committeemen include: Gus Eyssell, Harry Kalmine, Malcolm Kingsberg, Dave Levy, Arthur Mayer, Raymond E. Moon, Walter Reade, Sam Rinzler, Sam Rosen, Edward N. Rugoff, Bert Sanford, Fred Schwartz, Joseph M. Seider, George Skouras, Solomon Strassberg and Joseph Vogel.

Transfer Nathanson

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 9.—Nat Nathanson, branch manager for United Artists, has been transferred to the Chicago office. Clarence Olson of Denver will succeed Nathanson here.

Meet With Ascap

(*Continued from page* 1)

States; Robert Poole, executive secretary of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; Harry Brandt, president of ITOA of New York, and the Metropolitan M. P. Theatres Association of N. Y.

The invitations were sent by wire yesterday by S. H. Fabian, ATA president, and responses had been received last night only from the MMPTA of New York, which accepted the bid.

It was stated that discussions at the meeting will be exploratory and will revolve around "the entire subject of Ascap as related to motion picture theatre operations, and with particular reference to the newly announced Ascap theatre licensing rates."

The Ascap rate increases, Fabian said, will have a prominent place on the agenda of the joint ATA-MPTOA convention in Washington, Sept. 19-20.

Leaders of the two organizations, Fabian stated, "feel that a free discussion of this problem with Ascap officials on a business basis is a sensible preliminary to any action to be recommended to exhibitors. This is a most serious problem and one which has aroused exhibitors throughout the country as has no issue since the decision in the New York case."

ATA's entry into the Ascap arena is regarded in trade circles as another departure from its self-imposed restriction against engaging in trade practice controversies. Its first departure occurred before the organization was a year old and resulted in its filing for intervention in the government's New York anti-trust case, an action that cost it the membership of Loew's and RKO theatres.

Those already committed to attend Friday's meeting with Herman Greenberg, Ascap sales manager, and a committee of Ascap officials, are: Fred Wehrenberg, president, and Herman Levy, general counsel of MPTOA; Fabian, Ted Gamble, board chairman, and Robert Coyne, executive director of ATA, and Fred Schwartz, president of MMPTA of New York.

Mills Accepts Bid to ATA-MPTOA Meeting

E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, yesterday accepted the invitation of the MPTOA and ATA to attend the joint convention of the two organizations to discuss the new Ascap music licensing increases and possible resistance action in Washington next Friday.

6 More Elected to Cincinnati MPF

CINCINNATI, Sept. 9.—With the election of six additional committeemen to the Motion Picture Foundation unit here, the Cincinnati organization primed itself to begin functioning as soon the national trustees hold their meeting. Elected today were: P. J. Wood, secretary of the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio; E. R. Custer, president of the West Virginia Theatre Owners; J. C. Shanklin, president of the West Virginia section of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners; Floyd E. Rogers, West Virginia circuit operator, Mauryce White, Cincinnati circuit operator, and William Keys, Dayton exhibitor.

Utah Exhibitors Hit Ascap, Roadshows

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 9.—Resolutions objecting to the "arbitrary" rise in fees levied by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and another calling upon the Department of Justice for relief from "arbitrary prices" set on roadshow attractions are being framed by the Utah Theatres Association following the UTA annual meeting held here today. The roadshow resolution also seeks a roadshow price increase for small theatres comparable percentage-wise to the first run increase.

Emil Ostlund of Springville, Utah, was elected to the presidency.

MPTOA Asks Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

united front against Ascap in their locality.

"I have always felt, and still feel, that each exhibitor association, if it wishes to, has the right to foster its own philosophy of existence and purpose," Wehrenberg said, "but a problem as acute as that of Ascap transcends private philosophies and feelings.

"Allied's constant policy of refusing to accept sincere bids for united exhibitor action, whether they be for an industry Forum, statutory court action or Ascap, retards greatly the one goal sought by practically all exhibitors in the country—a united front in those industry matters where a united front can be helpful and where there is no logical objection to such a front."

Chas. Skouras to Represent FWC at ATA Merger Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 9. — Charles Skouras will represent National Theatres and Fox West Coast, both of which he heads, at the American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America merger meeting at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington on Sept. 19-20.

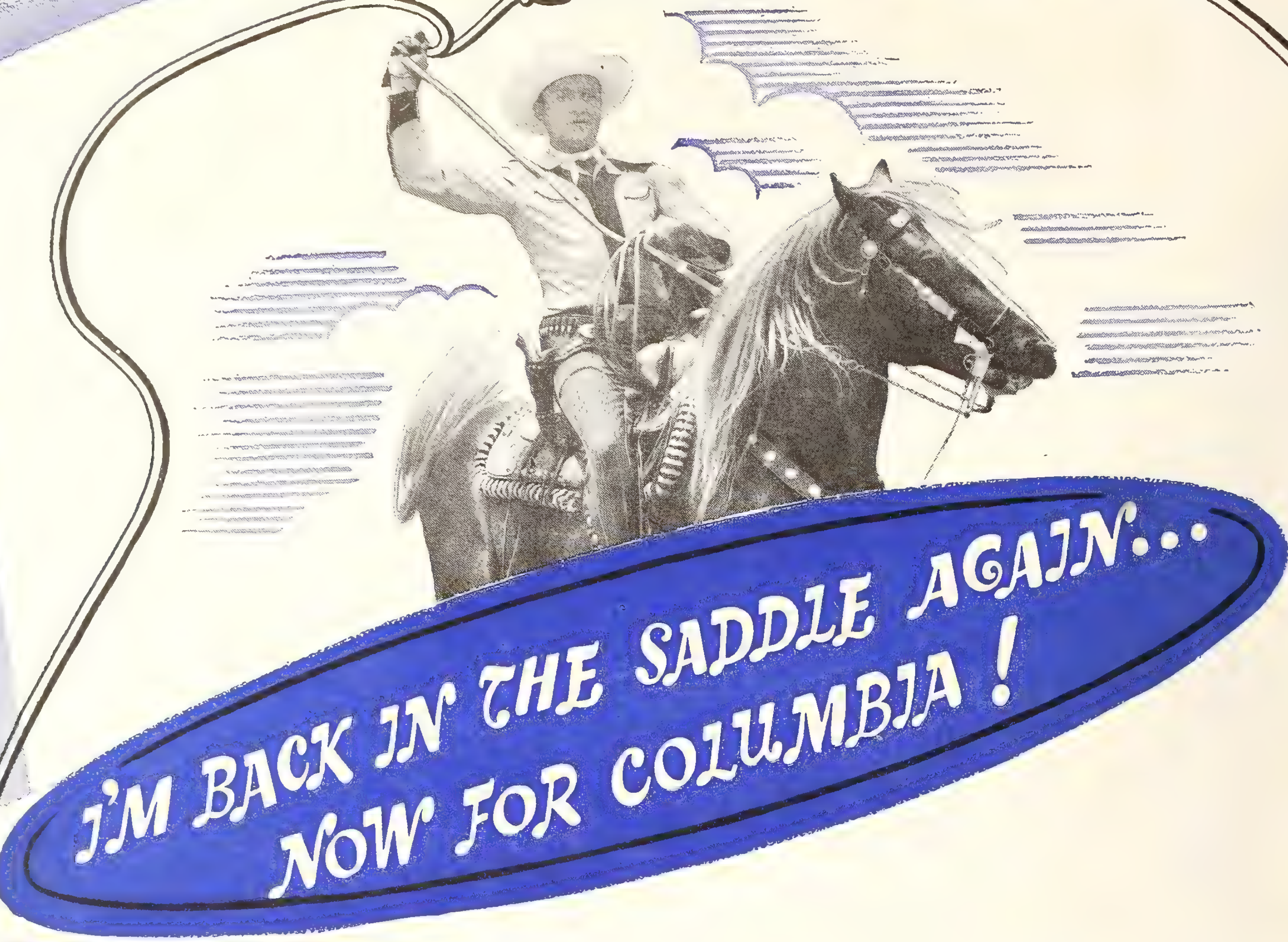
Accompanying Skouras will be Ernest Turnbull, managing director of Hoyts Theatres, National's Australian affiliate, who will be an observer; and National division heads Elmer Rhoden, "Rick" Ricketson and Harold J. Fitzgerald. Frank L. Newman, Sr., also a division chief, will join the party in Washington.

SCTOA Backs Merger; To Press Ascap Battle

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 9.—Unanimous approval of a resolution that the Southern California Theatre Owners Association merge with the American Theatre Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America was voted today by the full SCTOA membership. Paul Williams, SCTOA general counsel, accompanied by two board members yet to be appointed, will attend the Washington convention, and have been instructed to exercise all powers invested in them by the board, including vigorous prosecution of the formula under which Ascap would increase license rates.

Northcross with Gallup

Samuel H. Northcross has been appointed vice-president of Audience Research, Inc., by Dr. George H. Gallup, president. Northcross resigned last week from Young and Rubicam, here, where he had been in charge of radio research. He will head a new division of AR for radio and television research.


I'M BACK IN THE SADDLE AGAIN...
NOW FOR COLUMBIA!

I am happy to announce that

The Last Round-Up

a big spectacular musical drama
featuring the immortal tune,
will be the first picture
of Gene Autry Productions
for Columbia Pictures release.

Gene Autry

ARMAND SCHAEFER, PRODUCER

DO NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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62. NO. 51 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1947 TEN CENTS

Protestations Against High Prices Grow

Complaint to Be Sent To President Truman

Resentment of large numbers of independent exhibitors toward the increased admission policies of some distributors has been swelled by the protestations of two more groups, one of which—Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania—calls for criminal action against the companies in a fight it proposes carrying to President Truman and Attorney-General Tom Clark. The other—Rocky Mountain Independent Theatres—warns theatre owners that the more increased admission pictures purchased, the more there will be.

"What Selznick and Goldwyn started has now become a landslide," admonishes the Rocky Mountain group,

(*Continued on page 7*)

NYC Theatre Bldg. Bill Passes Council

The Sharkey rent and eviction control bills have been passed by the New York City Council and the Board of Estimate in revised form, one amendment permitting the eviction, under certain conditions, of fami-

(*Continued on page 7*)

CSU 'Peace' Parley Efforts 'Doomed'

Hollywood, Sept. 10.—Efforts by the Conference of Studio Unions to revive a plan for a weekend meeting of union presidents in an effort to settle the studio jurisdictional dispute appeared doomed today to failure when Charles Boren, producer labor executive, notified CSU president Herbert K. Sorrell that the producers would not attend the meeting unless all interested parties are represented.

In the face of this, the CSU has been seeking to contact Rep. Carroll D. Kearns, who initiated the meeting held in Chicago last weekend.

Kearns is en route to New York where he will stay Friday and Saturday.

Charge Tax Crisis Is Being Exploited

London, Sept. 10.—The Cinematograph Exhibitors Association has filed strong protests with the Kinematograph Renters Society that salesmen of unnamed film companies are endeavoring to exploit the ad valorem tax impasse and crisis by demanding higher film rentals.

The KRS immediately replied that it will draw to the attention of film renters the undesirability of the practice.

End Exchange In Argentina

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—The Central Bank of Argentina has passed a temporary provisional measure which eliminates dollar exchange for American films, the U. S. State Department reported here today.

Pending a thorough study of Argentina's dollar situation, the Central Bank has issued a temporary list of basic commodities for which dollar exchange will be available. Films are not included on the list, a Department spokesman said.

In mid-August, Argentina placed a total freeze on all dollar transfers. The measure was taken, it was said, to study the local consequences of the British dollar shortage and the problem of sterling convertibility.

City-by-City Sales Meets Set by Agnew

Top executives of the Selznick Releasing Organization will leave New York soon on extended trips to acquaint SRO sales staffs of the organization throughout the country with details of future releasing and production plans of the company, Neil F. Agnew, SRO president, announced here yesterday.

Agnew stated that he would have preferred a general sales meeting in New York, but due to the fact that the sales staffs are tied up at this time it was decided that every SRO office in the U. S. would be visited either by himself, Milton S. Kusell, distribution vice-president, or Sid Deneau, Kusell's assistant. Agnew has just returned from Hollywood and talks to the salesmen will be based on conferences that he had there with David O. Selznick, Daniel T.

(*Continued on page 7*)

CEA Sees An Early End to Tax Impasse

LONDON, Sept. 10.—The Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, on the eve of conveying proposals for ending the *ad valorem* film duty to Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the British Board of Trade, suggested here today that the interview is likely to produce an early and satisfactory solution. The Kinematograph Renters Society will attempt to get rid of the tax along parallel lines.

Because the CEA sees the danger of the situation "drifting for months, thereby causing irreparable damage to the whole film industry," CEA leaders are pressing for an early interview with Sir Cripps to especially discuss the implications of the tax on exhibitors.

The CEA general council has de-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Allied Board Sets Oct.-Nov. Meetings

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—The next meeting of the national board of Allied States will be held in Detroit on Oct. 14-15, Abram F. Myers, chairman of the board, announced today.

Arrangements for the meeting will be in charge of Jack Stewart, general manager of the Michigan Allied unit, whose annual convention will coincide with the board meeting.

A regular meeting of the national board will also be held in Milwaukee on Nov. 29 and 30, the two days preceding the 1947 national convention there. Harry Perlewitz, business manager of the Independent Theatre Owners of Michigan and Upper Wisconsin will be in charge of arrangements for this meeting.

The annual meeting at which officers are elected and organization matters considered will take place some time in February, Myers said, instead of the usual month of January.

Urge Relief from 'Double Taxation'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A 10-man group set up to advise the House Ways and Means Committee on tax revision will probably recommend some relief from "double taxation" of

(*Continued on page 7*)

ASCAP Board Retains Power To Alter Tax

Exhibitors Handicapped In Compromise Moves

Ascap management has not been authorized to negotiate a compromise license rate increase for theatres, officials of the Society said here yesterday. Authorization to negotiate a compromise must be given in advance by the Ascap board of directors, and such authorization has not been requested by management, it was said.

Accordingly, there appears to be little possibility of any progress on a compromise of the new Ascap rates materializing at tomorrow's meeting of exhibitor organization leaders with Ascap officials.

The meeting, arranged by American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, has been described as "exploratory"

(*Continued on page 7*)

Naming TOA Slate Is Delegates' Job

Although Ted R. Gamble looms as the logical choice for the top spot, selection of a slate of officers to head the organization which will evolve from the merger of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America

(*Continued on page 7*)

NYC, Industry Again Meet on Production

New York City film production coordinator Edward C. Maguire and his committee of film industry advisers, met here yesterday with city commissioners of parks, marine and aviation, transportation, and public projects in

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Robin Hood of Texas" is reviewed on page 4. Key city grosses are reported on page 5.

Future of 'Outlaw' Here in the Balance

Continuation of exhibition in New York City of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," which opened here for the first time at eight o'clock this morning at United Artists' Broadway Theatre, after much legal wrangling months ago, appears to be hanging in the balance today.

Action against the picture — or against its showing—by city law-enforcement agencies, is said to depend on the future tone of the advertising to be used in promoting it, and on whether certain scenes, which are said to have aroused Police Department objection when city officials viewed the film last fall, are contained in the prints used here.

Fielding Still Silent

Queried yesterday, city license commissioner Benjamin Fielding reiterated "No comment." He merely characterized his department as "not a censorship agency, but actually a law-enforcement agency," and pointed out that when there are violations of the law pertaining to advertising or to the public exhibition of motion pictures it is the duty of law-enforcement agencies to act. Fielding declined to state whether he would again view "The Outlaw" following the Broadway opening, but City Hall sources hinted yesterday that city officials would be among the opening day's audience.

Pre-Broadway opening advertising of the picture has shown a marked departure from the advertising used last fall and which Fielding described then as "offensive." Although at that time Fielding directed his objections exclusively at the picture's advertising, it was said that he had given moral support to Police Department objections to certain scenes in the film. Presumably, if any city action is taken against "The Outlaw" at this time it will be by the Police Department rather than by Fielding, since the advertising aspect appears to be in Fielding's jurisdiction while the contents of the picture itself appear to be the business of the Police Department.

Film Has No PCA Seal

Although the picture carries a New York State license, it is without the industry's Production Code seal of approval. The seal was removed by the Motion Picture Association several months ago and a resultant anti-trust suit which the Hughes Tool Co. started against MPA last May is still pending. The picture received a Class C (condemned) rating from the National Legion of Decency.

Under the laws of the State of New York, licensing of a motion picture by the state does not preclude the right of localities to rule on whether a picture may be shown within their borders. Last April, New York Supreme Court Justice Bernard Shientag dismissed the Hughes Tool complaint against Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, ruling that final decision on the showing of "The Outlaw" in New York City remained with the courts only after a violation had been made and prosecution had been instituted.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, is scheduled to return to New York today from Washington.

•

C. J. Jeffrey, manager of the Capital Theatre, Welland, Ont., has been transferred by Famous Players to the Algoma, Sault Ste. Marie, replacing Al Hartshorn who was appointed manager of the Regent, Oshawa, following the recent death of James I. Foy.

•

Senn Lawler, Fox Midwest public relations director, has been named chairman of the special events committee for the Kansas City Community Chest campaign now being organized.

•

Joe di Lorenzo, Daly Theatre Corp. in Connecticut, is in Lawrence Memorial Hospital, New London, following serious injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

•

Jerry Collins, booker for Fox West Coast's peninsula district, has been promoted to assistant to George Milner, with Jack Foley succeeding to Collins' post.

•

Louis Hudson, manager of the Hill Top Theatre, Louisville, who sustained bruises in a recent automobile accident, is vacationing at Lake Wawasee, Ind.

•

Frank Arena has been named assistant manager of Loew's State, Cleveland, succeeding Don Abeles, who has resigned. Arena was transferred from Loew's State in Boston.

•

Samuel Schwartz has been transferred to the M-G-M booking desk in Charlotte from Boston, replacing Bill Baynard, who has resigned to go to college.

•

Herman R. Maier, head of the Warner construction department, has arrived in Havana from New York.

•

Paul Mowrey, American Broadcasting's television director, has returned here from a Detroit visit.

•

Morrie Roizman, March of Time senior film editor, is in Europe from New York.

•

Bernard R. Goodman, Warner exchanges supervisor, is on a tour of Midwest exchanges.

•

Lynda Burnett, Eagle-Lion head booker, has returned to Atlanta after a vacation in Mexico City.

•

Max McCoy has moved from Paramount booker to Universal-International salesman in Omaha.

•

Ralph McCoy, Eagle-Lion Southern district manager, is back in Atlanta from Charlotte.

•

Barney Slaughter, Republic salesman in Charlotte, has been transferred to office manager there.

•

Carey Wilson, M-G-M producer, is in town from the Coast.

JACK ELLIS, United Artists New York district manager, has returned to the home office from Albany.

•

Ben Kalmenson, Warner general sales manager, Norman Ayers, division manager, and Jack Kirby, Southern district manager, conferred with Ralph Iannúzzi, Charlotte branch manager, in Charlotte this week.

•

Herman Ripps, field assistant to M-G-M Eastern sales manager John P. Byrne, arrived here yesterday from Albany, N. Y., and Benn H. Rosenwald, Boston manager, is also in town.

•

Stephen Wiedemann, formerly manager of Western Electric Co. (Near East) activities in South Africa, has returned to New York for conferences with Westrex officials here.

•

Jeanne Grace Hyman, daughter of Paramount Theatres Service vice-president Edward L. Hyman, will be married to William E. Blatz on Sept. 27.

•

Dave Flexer and A. M. Avery of Flexer Theatres have returned to Memphis from Minneapolis where they attended the opening of a new Flexer drive-in.

•

Arthur C. Bromberg, president of Monogram Southern exchanges, is visiting the Charlotte branch from Atlanta.

•

Jim Partlow, Universal-International branch manager in Atlanta, has returned there from a vacation in Canada.

•

Floyd Harvey, Jr., Universal-International office manager in Memphis, and Doris Nunn of Bells, Tenn., were married in Memphis.

•

Stanley Yentes, 20th Century-Fox office manager and head booker in Albany, N. Y., is recuperating from an appendicitis operation.

•

Jack Simons, manager of the Center Theatre, Hartford, has returned from a Rhode Island and Cape Cod vacation.

•

Kenneth MacKenna, M-G-M studio story department executive, and Mrs. MacKenna are due here from the Coast Monday.

•

Dallas Richardson has replaced Ernest Johnston in the Universal-International booking department in Charlotte.

•

Mack Jackson, president of the Confederacy of Southern Associations, was a recent Atlanta visitor.

•

Harry Katz of Kay Film Exchanges has returned to Atlanta after a visit to the Charlotte office.

•

William Kemp, manager of Loew's State, Memphis, is vacationing in Atlanta and Athens, Ga.

M-G-M Meets Today In N.Y., Pittsburgh

Two more M-G-M regional meetings will open here and in Pittsburgh today and will continue through tomorrow, with agendas stressing discussions at the recent sales conferences held by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, on the Coast. The first of the regionals began yesterday in Chicago.

John P. Byrne, Eastern sales [illegible]ager, will be in charge of the meetings here, to be held at the Astor Hotel. John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, will supervise the sessions in Pittsburgh.

A New Orleans meeting will begin tomorrow and run through Saturday, under the supervision of Rudolph Berger, Southern sales manager. George A. Hickey, Western sales manager, will supervise the meeting in San Francisco, next Monday and Tuesday.

The Chicago sessions, which will be concluded today, are under the supervision of Burtus Bishop, Jr., Midwestern sales manager.

Owen Opens Para. Sales Drive Meets

A series of branch conferences o Paramount's 1947 "Celebrating 3 Years of Leadership" sales drive which opened on Aug. 31, has bee launched by Hugh Owen, the company's Eastern and Southern divisio sales manager.

Owen started the tour of his territory with a two-day meeting of Charlotte branch personnel. Yesterday h opened a three-day conference in Atlanta. Other conferences schedule as follows: Jacksonville, Sept. 13-14 New Orleans, Sept. 15-16; Albany Sept. 22; New Haven, Sept. 23 Boston, Sept. 24-25; Buffalo, Sept 26.

The company yesterday claimed new record for both Paramount an the industry in the number of bookings for a company's product in single week, citing 17,009 obtaine during the week of Aug. 31-Sept. 6 It compared this with the previou record of 16,459 bookings obtaine by another company.

Miss Parkhouse Quits Post with MPA Here

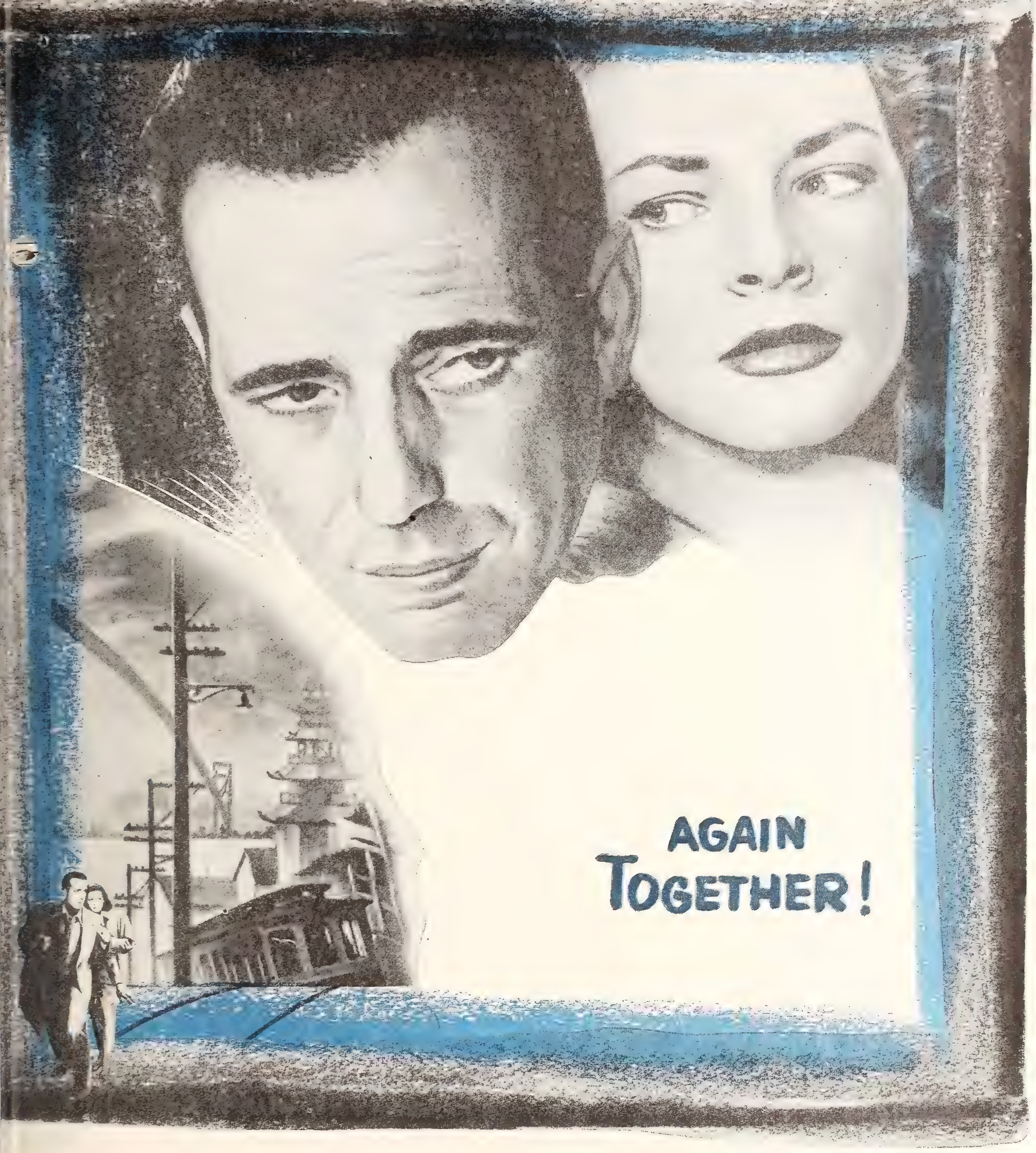
Mabel R. Parkhouse, for 23 year a member of the legislative department of the MPPDA and the Motio Picture Association, has resigned, effective tomorrow. She was marrie last June to Harry J. Szumski of th U. S. Treasury Department.

Her legislative duties will be removed to Washington where they wil come under the jurisdiction of Joh G. Bryson.

Lowell Calvert's Mother

Lowell Calvert, Eastern representative of Hunt Stromberg Productions has returned to New York from Billings, Mont., where he attended th funeral of his mother, Mrs. Davi Patient.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley. Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue. Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubc New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr.. Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James F Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau. Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road. N. W.: London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq.. London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Pete Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motio Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879 Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



HUMPHREY BOGART and LAUREN BACALL

"THE BIG SLEEP" STARS WILL OPEN YOUR EYES AGAIN!

IN WARNER BROS.' **DARK PASSAGE**

From the spectacular SATURDAY EVENING POST *serial* • *with*

BRUCE BENNETT · AGNES MOOREHEAD · TOM D'ANDREA · DIRECTED BY DELMER DAVES · PRODUCED BY JERRY WALD

SCREEN PLAY BY DELMER DAVES • FROM THE NOVEL BY DAVID GOODIS • MUSIC BY FRANZ WAXMAN

To Cite 6 Stations At NBC's Meeting

Six stations affiliated with National Broadcasting will receive bronze plaques honoring them for 20 years with the network, at the NBC convention in Atlantic City tomorrow and Saturday. The awards will be made by Niles Trammell, network president, at the Saturday luncheon at the Hotel Claridge, convention headquarters.

Receiving the awards for the stations will be Dr. Ray Hanson, president, Stromberg Carlson Co., owners of WHAM, Rochester; John J. Gillin, Jr., president of WOW, Omaha; James D. Shouse, president, Crosley Broadcasting Corp., owners of WLW, Cincinnati; Amon Carter, Jr., executive of WBAP, Fort Worth; B. J. Palmer, chairman of the board, Central Broadcasting Co., owners of WHO, Des Moines, and Walter Damm, vice-president of radio, The Journal Co., owners of WTMJ, Milwaukee.

Nine stations earlier this year and six stations last year were honored.

90%
OF
HOLLYWOOD'S
FIRST-RUN
HOUSES
HAVE
INSTALLED
The VOICE OF THE THEATRE
ALTEC
LANSING CORPORATION

Review

"Robin Hood of Texas"

(*Republic*)

GENE AUTRY, aided by the Cass County Boys and his horse, Champion, Jr., fights and sings, and shoots and rides his way in and out of trouble in this musical Western concocted of standard elements.

The plot has Gene and the boys suspected of complicity in a bank robbery, so to clear themselves, they go about getting the real culprits. A dude ranch which Gene and the boys operate becomes the battleground as the bank robbers go there seeking to regain the loot which one of their gang ran off with, and the police go there to watch Gene. After some songs, a bit of mystery and a bang-up climax, matters are straightened out. Lynne Roberts and Adele Mara add pleasant feminine touches, with Sterling Holloway, a pill-gulping hypochondriac, providing the laughs. Lesley Selander directed, from an original screenplay by John K. Butler and Earle Snell. Sidney Picker was associate producer.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Two Libel Suits Filed Against Mrs. Rogers

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 10.—Similar suits for $1,000,000 each were filed today in Superior Court by screenwriter Emmet Lavery and stage producer Martin A. Gosch against Mrs. Leila Rogers and several "John Doe," charging that libel was "scandalously, falsely and maliciously" committed by Mrs. Rogers over an international radio hookup on Sept. 2. On that night Mrs. Rogers spoke for the affirmative and Lavery for the negative on the "Town Meeting of the Air" program on the question of "Is There a Communist Menace in Hollywood?"

Lavery asserts that he was called a Communist on the broadcast, and that part of the text of his unproduced play, "The Gentleman from Athens," was read in such a manner, he adds, as to indict him with an attempt to undermine American democracy. Gosch, who is to produce the play, charged that references to the play is damaging to his personal and professional reputation.

Fox Midwest to Use Radio Promotion

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Sept. 10.—Fox Midwest will embark on a radio promotional plan to draw farm patronage and for institutional purposes, E. C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest, disclosed today at the 16th annual meeting of the circuit at the Muehlebach Hotel here. The convention closed today.

Radio, a medium heretofore not used by the circuit, may be used extensively, Rhoden indicated, because it seems to be a means that lends itself readily to the purpose of reaching a potential audience which is scattered. He also indicated that individual theatres may utilize the airwaves over local stations.

Support Church Films

A substantial gift to help establish a department for the promotion and distribution of religious films has been presented to the World Council of Christian Education by Mrs. Clifford S. Heinz of Pittsburgh, according to Dr. Forrest L. Knapp, general secretary, here. The amount was not announced.

Republic Cites Newman

ALBANY, Sept. 10.—Republic will honor Albany branch manager Arthur Newman with a 13-week sales drive, beginning Sept. 18. Newman has been Albany manager since the company bought the local franchise in 1938. He has been in the industry 30 years.

Equity Council Votes Loyalty Provision

A resolution requiring all officers, council members and employes of Actors Equity Association, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, to sign oaths that they are neither Communist nor Fascist has been adopted by the Equity.

Although the resolution was adopted by a large majority, opposition to it was so heated that another resolution, stating that the council understood and respected the motives of those who opposed the oath, was passed by the council.

For the last six years, the Equity constitution has contained a provision barring Communists, Fascists and Nazis from holding office, being council members or paid employes. The latest action was regarded as implementing this provision.

Goodman New Head Of Paramount Club

Monroe Goodman, assistant to Oscar Morgan, Paramount short subjects sales manager, was elected president of the Paramount Pictures Club for 1947-48 at its annual meeting held here. He succeeds Agnes Mengel Grew. Other officers elected were: Sara Lyons Danto, vice-president; M. H. Hodge, treasurer, and Edward F. Morey, secretary.

Chosen for the board of governors for one-year to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs. Danto was Belle Jones. Mrs. Grew, Herbert Lazarus, Al Sicignano, Lillian Jacobs and Stanley Chase were elected to the board for two years.

Shean in New WE Post

Perry R. Shean, formerly manager of the Panama office of Western Electric Co. (Caribbean), has returned to New York to assume new duties in the engineering department of Westrex Corp., parent organization of the Latin-American subsidiary. Shean was succeeded in Panama by Douglas J. G. Johnson.

RKO Dividend

A quarterly dividend of 30 cents per share, payable Oct. 1 to RKO stockholders of record on Sept. 20, was declared on the common stock yesterday at a meeting of the board of directors.

'Amber' Here Oct. 22

"Forever Amber," 20th-Fox Technicolor production, will open in the Roxy here on Oct. 20.

Local UA Autonomy For Midwest District

The Midwest district, comprising Chicago, Milwaukee, Indianapolis and Minneapolis, will operate under branch autonomy in the future, without a distric manager's supervision, J. J. Unger, United Artists general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday.

Under the autonomous setup, g[illegible]er executive responsibilities w[illegible] delegated to the four branch managers: Nat Nathanson, Chicago; Robert Allen, Milwaukee; Elmer Donnelly, Indianapolis, and Ralph Cramblet, Minneapolis.

Cramblet, who was to have replaced Rud Lohrenz as Midwest district manager, remains in his present post. Ed Stoller, acting branch manager, will continue as city salesman in Minneapolis.

Operations in the Midwest district will continue to be supervised by Maury Orr, Western sales manager.

Assign Cohen to New WB Internat'l Post

Lester Cohen, formerly Warner manager in Panama, has been promoted to manager in Peru, with additional duties as supervisor in Ecuador. He succeeds H. E. Fletcher, resigned.

Jack Scribner, who has been Trinidad manager, will take over the Panama managership. Leo Green, formerly Hong Kong manager, who arrived in New York this week, has been assigned to manage the Trinidad office.

Swartz To Release 24 Realart Pictures

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 10.—Negotiations with Realart Pictures for the release of 24 pictures in the Minneapolis and Milwaukee zones have been concluded by Don Swartz, independent Minneapolis film distributor. An office to handle the Wisconsin territory will be opened on Sept. 15.

First two pictures to be released by Swartz will be "Lady from Cheyenne" and "Lady in a Jam." Realart was recently formed to distribute a large block of Universal reissues.

Star Sues Agency

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—Olivia De Havilland has filed suit for $10,30 against Phil Berg and Berg Allenberg Talent Agency, asserting that she los $175,000 worth of work through improper management of her career dur ing the run of a contract signed wit the agency in March 1943. The sum sought represents the fees paid to the agency during the existence of the pact, which the suit also asks re scinded.

MGM Fires 5 Publicists

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 10.—Five pub licists have been fired by the M-G-M studio here as an economy measure it was disclosed today.

Nina Scott, 56

SALT LAKE CITY, Sept. 10.—Nin Scott, 56, Republic office manage here and a 25-year veteran of the in dustry, died last night after a lon illness.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Something in the Wind" was the only new picture on the first-run front, and doing right nicely. The week was so perfect as to weather that a good many people who had spent most of their time in the cool interior of the theatre during the hot spell went outside and stayed out. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 10:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,800)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,800)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $14,200)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,400)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

DEEP VALLEY (WB) — WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,200)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,500)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $14,900)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,100)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $11,00. (Average: $11,500)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,200)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th- Fox-Wurtzel)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,600)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week . Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox-Wurtzel)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,200)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) and KILLER AT LARGE (E-L)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,900)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,200)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,600)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,100)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) and KILLER AT LARGE (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,800)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and THE ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,100)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and THE ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $13,300)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and THE ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $22,600)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $26,600)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,100)

WYOMING (Rep.) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,100)

WYOMING (Rep.) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,800)

WYOMING (Rep.) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $18,800)

WYOMING (Rep.) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $10,000)

PHILADELPHIA

With a minimum of new bookings, holdovers generally seem to be maintaining the healthy box-office established during the last holiday week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 9-11:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $27,000)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $13,800)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—EARLE (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $23,900. (Average: $31,700)

DEAR RUTH (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,600)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $9,500)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $12,700)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,200)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 3rd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average at regular prices: $21,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $24,100. (Average: $29,500)

CLEVELAND

Weather was too good for indoor entertainment. Veterans of Foreign Wars parades proved heavy competition. Estimated receipts for week ended Sept. 9-10:

BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $15,500)

CRY WOLF (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-74c) 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $2,900. (Average: $3,250)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $12,000)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000)

UNDERCOVER MAISIE (M-G-M) — LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.) — LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)

BOSTON

With the weather getting cooler, grosses picked up slightly. "Kiss of Death," aided by a stage show, registered $32,000. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 10:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $27,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,600. (Average: $6,500)

DESERT FURY (Para.) and KILROY WAS HERE (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,200. (Average: $15,000)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,500. (Average: $20,000)

GUNFIGHTERS (Col.) and THE CORPSE CAME C.O.D. (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Maxie Rosenbloom, Max Baer, Merry Macs. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $23,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736 (40c-80c). Gross: $25,400. (Average: $26,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

First run film business is continuing good this week. All attractions are average or better. "The Bachelor and the Bobby Soxer" is setting a new summer's high at the Indiana. Estimated reecipts for the week ended Sept. 9-10:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,000)

DEAR RUTH (Para.) and PHILO VANCE'S GAMBLE (E-L)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 3rd week. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $6,000)

DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c). With Henry Busse band on stage. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,500)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,000)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,500)

MINNEAPOLIS

Holdovers did a fair business in a week which saw little of anything new. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 11:

DESERT FURY (Para.)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000)

DUST BE MY DESTINY and MARKED WOMAN (WB reissues)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,500)

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,400)

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,500)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover from Radio City. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,300)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 8th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,600)

ST. LOUIS

"Gone With the Wind" at popular prices is topping all records for the season at Loew's State, while "Variety Girl" showed above average in a 2nd week at the Fox. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 10:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,750)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $20,000)

GREAT EXPECTATIONS (U-I)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $11,500)

MARKED WOMAN (WB reissue) and DUST BE MY DESTINY (WB reissue)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c) on a moveover from Loew's State. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,750)

UNTAMED FURY (E-L) and HEARTACHES (E-L)—SHUBERT (2,000) (40c-50c-60c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,250)

VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

UK Tax Impasse

(*Continued from page* 1)

cided that it would be tactically advantageous to convey the solution proposals to Sir Stafford orally rather than in writing, as first considered.

J. Arthur Rank and Associated British Picture Company's Sir Philip Warter will accompany the CEA delegation.

Nelson Meetings End

Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, met here again yesterday with Gradwell Sears, United Artists president; James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, and Milton Kussell of Vanguard, for discussions on the foreign tax situation's possible effect on independent producers. Nelson entrained for Washington last night to confer on the subject with government officials, and will return to New York later to resume his talks with independent producer representatives.

RKO Wins Citation

RKO Radio has been awarded an honorary citation by the provincial government of Tyrol for its shorts subjects, "Northern Ramparts" and "Power Unlimited." The award was made during a festival of documentaries and short subjects in the town of Kufstein in the Austrian province.

For Studio—

Architecturally magnificent modern fireproof former First National Bank Building at Mamaroneck Ave. & Boston Post Road, in Mamaroneck. 3-story and full terrazzo floor basement; high ceiling mezzanine banking floor; third floor all offices. 2 elevators. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

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WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Aug. 10	RIDERS OF THE LONE STAR Charles Starrett Smiley Burnette O—55 min.			FLASHING GUNS Johnny Mack Brown O	DESERT FURY (Color) John Hodiak Lizabeth Scott D—98 min. (4617) (Rev. 7/30/47)	WYOMING William Elliot Vera Ralston O—84 min. (618) (Rev. 7/28/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)		CRY WOLF Errol Flynn Barbara Stanwyck D—83 min. (625) (Rev. 7/1/47)
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O (851)	RED STALLION (Color) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. (Rev. 9/2/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)	(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 24		GAS HOUSE KIDS IN HOLLYWOOD Carl Switzer C—62 min. (Rev. 9/2/47)			VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min. (Rev. 8/18/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)	(Sept. Releases)			
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)	RAILROADED John Ireland D	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)	(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)		ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min. (Rev. 9/8/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)	HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (701) (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D (821)	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)		EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min.	(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases)		LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 14				JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)		DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min.	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)		UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Sept. 28		BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	KING OF THE BANDITS			RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (Rev.10/20/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min.	RETURN OF THE LASH O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	BOWERY BUCKAROOS C	ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)		CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D			(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER Chas. Starret Smiley Burnette O-55 min.		SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	THE RED HORNET				NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D			(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Oct. 19	BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 min.										THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706)

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

Urge Tax Relief

(*Continued from page* 1)

corporate profits, it was revealed here today.

Universal Pictures chairman J. Cheever Cowdin is a member of the group, which started a two-day session here today. The group is expected to submit a full slate of recommendations to the Ways and Means Committee in about a month, some time before the committee resumes hearings on tax revision in October. [illegible]rmer Secretary of the Treasury [illegible]well Magill refused to state whether recommendations would be made on excise tax revision. He did say, however, that no recommendations will be made on individual income tax rates or personal exemptions.

Double taxation refers to the fact that corporate profits are taxed both when received by the corporation and when received by stockholders as dividends.

NYC, Industry Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

connection with the devising of methods to expedite Eastern production operations.

The industry committee includes W. D. Kelly, Loew's; Hal Hode, Columbia; L. E. Thompson, RKO, and Tom Mead and Gilbert Kurland, Universal-International.

Three more meetings are scheduled to be held with city departmental officials. The next will take place tomorrow and two more will be held next week to complete a series of five set by Maguire to implement production operations in New York City. The first meeting, held last Monday, resulted in the decision to have the city issue a special, simplified "motion picture permit," with issuance by one individual, possibly in the traffic division of the police department.

Agnew Sets Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

O'Shea, Vanguard Films president, and E. L. Scanlon, Vanguard vice-president. Pictures to be discussed, in the order of release, are: "Intermezzo," "The Paradine Case," "Portrait of Jennie" and "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House."

Kusell will leave next week to handle sales confabs in Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Denver, Dallas and Atlanta offices. Agnew will handle sales talks in Boston, Buffalo, Washington, Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. Deneau will contact Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, St. Louis and Des Moines.

Pantages

Moves All Seats

To Center Section

. . . by installing NU-SCREEN, the greatest invention since Sound! Manufactured by Nu-Screen Corporation, Herman Gluckman, president, 1501 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y. Telephone WIsconsin 7-9355.

*Hollywood.

Advertisement

Another Complaint On Ascap Rate Rise

Philadelphia, Sept. 10.—Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, meeting here, has resolved to petition Tom C. Clark, U. S. Attorney General, "to promptly institute criminal proceedings against Ascap and all of its officers and agents responible for the direction and execution of its price raising campaign.

"Such criminal proceedings would be in line with his policy to restrain rapacious, wilful and arbitrary monopolists in their efforts to raise prices, and in their gouging of the public and of the independent businessman."

Ascap Board

(*Continued from page* 1)

by its sponsors, who regard it as a preliminary to any course of action which may be recommended to the joint convention of the two organizations in Washington next week.

Since the death last spring of John G. Paine, Ascap general manager, management of the Society has been by a committee of four: Deems Taylor, president; Herman Greenberg, sales manager; Herman Finkelstein, counsel, and Richard Murray. The committee acts for the board of directors of Ascap, which retains final authority in virtually all administrative matters.

The lack of vested authority within Ascap is reported to be known to the exhibition group through an earlier visit paid to the Society by Robert W. Coyne, executive director of ATA, in connection with the proposed increase in theatre music licenses, on which occasion he is said to have experienced difficulty in identifying anyone with sufficient authority to discuss the matter to any degree of satisfaction.

It is assumed that most or all of Ascap's four-man management committee will be present, without authority to make any commitments, at tomorrow's meeting with the exhibitor representatives.

In trade circles it was felt that if the exhibitors can manage to determine whether the new Ascap theatre formula is merely an "asking price," rather than a fixed schedule to be defended to the bitter end, then the meeting could be regarded a success.

In that event, Ascap management can listen to the exhibitors, report back to the board where it could be decided whether the Society will negotiate with exhibitors or not. That would go a long way toward helping exhibitors at the MPTOA-ATA meeting in Washington next week to determine their best course of action with respect to music licenses increases, it is pointed out.

Bishop to New York

Burtus Bishop Jr., M-G-M midwestern sales manager, with headquarters in Chicago, will shift his activities to the home office for a month under the rotation plan of William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager. M-G-M field sales managers are participating in the rotation.

TOA Slate

(*Continued from page* 1)

will rest solely with convention delegates who will gather at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington on Sept. 19-20 to effect the merger.

This is the opinion in ATA-MPTOA circles here, it being pointed out that there are insurmountable obstacles to the selection of a complete slate for presentation to the meeting.

Principal obstacle is that those who have been mentioned as being most suitable for executive posts, have expressed themselves as being unwilling to serve. For example, Gamble, ATA board chairman, whom MOTION PICTURE DAILY described on Tuesday as "the most logical person" for the presidency of the new organization, has said he will not be a candidate. He will return to New York tomorrow from Portland, Ore., where he has been on business.

Spokesmen reiterated yesterday their conviction that the new organization's president would have to be an individual who is well-known nationally outside as well as within the industry. Hence they view Gamble as the logical one for the job. It is expected that delegates from some sections of the country will arrive at the convention prepared to enter the names of "favorite sons" as candidates for president, but none of those mentioned, other than Gamble, are said to measure up to the national stature qualification which is desired.

There is some likelihood, it was said, that the ATA-MPTOA board will draft a slate of officers at their meetings which will precede the convention, but, it was pointed out, the same obstacles to selection of a slate will be present and the problem may go to the convention.

It is believed here that Gamble will be elected by acclamation on the convention floor. When the merger was first discussed last June, Mitchell Wolfson, executive of Wometco Theatres, Miami, had been mentioned prominently as a leading prospect for the presidency but he has since flatly refused to be a candidate, as has Si Fabian, ATA president.

Myers Answers Wehrenberg On Allied's Refusal

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—Abram F. Myers, general counsel for Allied States, today roundly answered criticism of his and Allied president Jack Kirsch's refusal to attend the MPTOA-ATA merger conference to be held here late next week.

In a letter to Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, Myers declared that it would be out of keeping for officers of an association of independent theatre exhibitors to attend a meeting of two associations which include affiliated theatres among their membership, and beyond Allied's policy as explained in MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S "Tradewise" column last Monday.

15 More Projects Approved by U. S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—A $155,000 new theatre, to be built by Mr. and Mrs. F. Sexton in Ironton, O., heads the list of 15 theatre building projects approved by the Government. Citizens Theatre Co. received permission for a new theatre in Brazil, Ind., to cost $100,000.

Total cost of the 15 approved projects is $635,720; 34 projects were denied, involving $2,022,267.

Protest High Prices

(*Continued from page* 1)

warning that "Warners, Fox, Paramount, United Artists and Metro are all coming up with increased admission specials. It has become ridiculous! The public doesn't want high prices. Increased admission pictures are a mistake for the exhibitor and an insult to the patron."

In a resolution described by Eastern Pennsylvania Allied as having been unanimously adopted, its members declare:

"Several distributors of feature motion pictures have already instituted a policy of compulsory increased admission prices on so-called super productions, and certain other distributors have announced the same policy for future releases. Such policy," it is said, "has already aroused public resentment, as evidenced by letters to newspapers and comments of patrons, and such policy is deliberate defiance of the expressed wish of President Truman that prices to the public should not be raised.

"We condemn this rapacious policy of the distributors. We urge all our members to refrain from gouging the public by increasing admission prices at the behest and demand of the distributors."

Theatre Building Bill

(*Continued from page* 1)

lies to make way for construction of theatres, department stores or other commercial construction.

Strongest Council opposition to the measure was directed at the commercial construction amendment, but the revised bills passed both legislative chambers without a dissenting vote. The opposition denounced the amendments on the ground that they weakened the protection the bills would give tenants.

The bills will go to Mayor William O'Dwyer for signing following a statutory hearing on them, which is expected to be held on Monday.

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IN THE LIMELIGHT...

LIFE

When LIFE Magazine, with twenty million readers, makes BLACK NARCISSUS and FRIEDA the Movie of the Week, two weeks in succession, then you can truthfully say: Here are two pictures worthy of distinction.

Important also is the fact that BLACK NARCISSUS is now in its fifth week at the Fulton Theatre, New York, and FRIEDA is in its fifth week at the Park Avenue Theatre.

Both of these pictures are available for screening. You owe it to yourself and patrons to look at them and book them while they are benefitting from this excellent publicity.

J. ARTHUR RANK Presents

Deborah Kerr

M-G-M Star of "HUCKSTERS" Fame!

DAVID FLORA
SABU · FARRAR · ROBSON

"BLACK NARCISSUS"

in TECHNICOLOR
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE
A Powell-Pressburger Production

J. ARTHUR RANK Presents

"FRIEDA"

Starring
DAVID GLYNIS
FARRAR · JOHNS
FLORA ALBERT
ROBSON · LIEVEN
And the New Swedish Star
MAI ZETTERLING
A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL RELEASE
A Michael Balcon Production

P.S.—James Mason in THE UPTURNED GLASS is the next important J. Arthur Rank production

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. 62. NO. 52 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1947 TEN CENTS

House Will Be Asked to Cut Excise Taxes

Recommendations To Be Ready Before November

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—Downward revision of the excise taxes, which includes the 20 per cent theatre admission tax, will be recommended to the House Ways and Means Committee by a special 10-man advisory committee appointed last spring by House Committee chairman Harold Knutson. J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal Pictures, is a member of the 10-man committee.

Although spokesmen declined to reveal what specific suggestions would be made concerning the admission tax, they declared that the advisory committee hopes to submit recommendations to the Ways and

(*Continued on page 3*)

Michalson Is Head of RKO Video Unit

Supervision of RKO television activities, which have become a departmental operation of RKO Pathe, will be handled by Harry Michalson, RKO Pathe president, until a successor to Ralph B. Austrian, who last month resigned as RKO television chief, is named. RKO Television Corp., which Austrian headed, has

(*Continued on page 3*)

Asks SWG Board For 'Red' Disclaimers

Hollywood, Sept. 11.—Emmet Lavery, president of the Screen Writers Guild, has wired the Guild's 21 board members requesting each to sign an affidavit disclaiming Communist affiliation, as required under the Taft-Hartley Law, in order to establish the Guild's position in the event of future developments.

F. Hugh Herbert, who resigned as Guild secretary Monday, has asked permission to sign such an affidavit before his resignation becomes effective.

Michigan Allied and Independents Join Today's Ascap Meet

Allied Theatres of Michigan and Cooperative Theatres of Michigan will be represented at the exhibitor conference which will take place here today with the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers on the subject of Ascap's new theatre music licensing rate increases.

Robert Coyne, American Theatres Association executive director, received telephone acceptances yesterday to invitations to attend from Joseph Uvick, a director of the Allied unit, and Dave Newman of Cooperative, who will represent their respective organizations at the meeting. In addition to these and ATA and MPTOA

(*Continued on page 4*)

NYC Says 'Outlaw' Cut; UA Says No

Apparently satisfied that it had won its war against the "indecencies" which it had charged were inherent in the advertising used previously to promote Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," and which it had charged were contained in the picture itself, New York City officialdom yesterday seemingly gave the film, as shown at the Broadway Theatre, here, a clean bill of health.

"It is understood that the original objections to the nature of the advertising and to certain portions of the picture have been met," an official of

(*Continued on page 4*)

ATA-MPTOA to Hear Skouras on British

Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Century-Fox president, will discuss the British situation and its effect on the industry at a luncheon in the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, next Friday in connection with the joint American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America merger convention.

Barney Balaban, Paramount president; Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO, and Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists president, are among top industry executives scheduled to attend. Convention attendance will be in excess of 500 persons on the basis of reservations made to date.

Dominion May Call Session on Dollars

TORONTO, Sept. 11.—Members of the Canadian Parliament have been alerted for the possible holding of a special session of Commons at Ottawa at the end of September to consider drastic proposals by the government to cope with the monetary situation, which has been called increasingly alarming. Measures to correct the adverse trade balance with the United States and the dwindling supply of American dollars are said to be so far-reaching that the government decided to provide a full-dress debate.

The moves would affect luxury im-

(*Continued on page 3*)

See Cripps Set to Name Del Giudice UK Film Chief

LONDON, Sept. 11.—Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, is believed here to have prepared a plan for the British film industry which contemplates the appointment of Filippo del Giudice, former producer for J. Arthur Rank as chief governmental supervisor of the industry, and to use of the 75 per cent tax on U. S. films as a big stick to make the British industry self-sufficent.

Giudice, an attorney, came to England during the Mussolini regime, and became managing director of Two Cities. He made "In Which We Serve," "Henry V," and "The Way to the Stars," for Rank. Then came a break with Rank, with Giudice forming Pilgrim Pictures.

Cripps and Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin are believed to be advised by Giudice on industry matters, and it is further believed that Cripps has accepted Giudice's thesis that the motion picture's evils here spring from some "mercantile-minded men" in the industry. Giudice is also believed to contemplate a change in distribution methods.

Cripps is also believed to have listened to George Elvin, secretary of the left-wing Association of Cine-Technicians. Elvin has been chief spokesman for the Film Industry Employes' Council, which recently laid before the government a plan for more British films in view of the Dalton tax.

Unfair Labor Charge Made By Colosseum

Seek NLRB Court Action To Restrain Companies

CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—The Colosseum of Motion Picture Salesmen of America today charged the major film companies with allegedly engaging in unfair labor practices by dismissing union members, reducing wages and increasing responsibilities in order to interfere with and discourage membership in the organization.

The Colosseum, which has been seeking certification as collective bargaining agent, made its accusations through its attorney, David Beznor, who called upon the National Labor Relations Board to petition the Federal Court for a restraining order to enjoin the companies from engaging in the alleged practices.

The union also pointed out that salesmen's conditions have deteriorated during the past four years, and charge

(*Continued on page 4*)

AFL Heads Call 2nd Meet on Coast Strife

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—The American Federation of Labor executive committee will undertake to effect a settlement of the studio jurisdictional strike at a meeting set for the Drake Hotel, Chicago, on Saturday morning, with the international presidents of the disputant unions again presenting their cases.

Y. Frank Freeman, E. J. Mannix, B. B. Kahane and Charles Boren, members of the Association of Motion Picture Producers' labor committee,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Operators Ask 'IA' To Join Wage Talks

After protracted negotiations which have failed to bring about agreement, projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, has asked Richard F. Walsh, international president of IATSE, to enter the negotiations with several circuits. Some 800 projectionists are involved.

Walsh is understood to be ready to

(*Continued on page 4*)

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

TWIN CITIES TELEVISION LABORATORIES, Minneapolis, is chortling over telecasting what they describe as "sensational shots that may well be television 'firsts,'" to wit:

"An aerialist riding a bicycle on a thin steel rod teetering for a moment and then falling to his death; a racing car smashing up on the track and burning while the driver lay unconscious beside it; planes crashing, killing three pilots."

▽

Whimsy-minded British civil servants in London have dubbed the troublesome Dalton ad valorem tax plan, "Operation Dove."

Peace, it's Wonderful.

▽

Radio in Hollywood gets whackier by the hour. The NBC "Truth or 'Consequences" program this week gave treasure-hunting Al and Betty Anderson, contestants, a $500 diamond ring, two complete clothing outfits, a vacuum cleaner, two gold wrist watches, a refrigerator, and a deep-freeze box, for bringing in a hair from Jack Benny's toupee, a band from the sombrero of ex-New York Mayor "Butch," a salt cellar from Senator Pepper, a shilling from Sir Harry (Scotsman) Lauder, a copy of "Missouri Waltz" from President Truman and an autograph from Mahatma Gandhi—the Mahatma having turned down the Anderson's request for a piece of his sheet. Seems he is vulnerable to drafts.

▽

Some Australians will really feel the pinch of their economic crisis, for, in addition to banning the importation of certain types of motion picture projectors, the government has banned the importation of hair-clippers, corsets, spectacles, artificial teeth, fish oil, chiclets, axe handles, rubber thread for golf balls, etc., etc.

▽

San Francisco theatre owner Irving Levin reports that his newly-invented noiseless popcorn bag is a great success. He hasn't had a single complaint of crinkling, crackling or crunching since he started using his "hushed" bag of laminated cellophane.

▽

All is not sombre in London. The annual gathering of British Gag-writers was held recently in London-town, "under the spreading chestnut tree," and, reports *Kinematograph Weekly*, "The meeting opened with the traditional debagging of the chairman and the hoisting of his pants mast high, where they fluttered, a proud indication that proceedings were in session."

▽

Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus' Technicolor is observing its 30th anniversary. The name Technicolor comes from a combination of "tech"—from Kalmus' alma mater, Massachusetts Institute of Technology—and "color."

The first Technicolor laboratory was built in a railroad car, in Boston, to enable Kalmus and his technicians to produce on location.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner general sales manager, is due back in New York early next week from a Southern tour.

•

STANLEY MEYER, vice-president and general manager of United Artists Theater Circuit, is recuperating at the Sherry-Netherland here after a minor operation.

•

ROY HAINES, Warner Western division sales manager, who is on a trip to Detroit and Chicago, will return here next week.

•

LEONARD S. SCHLESINGER, Warner Service Corp. president, returned to the home office yesterday after recuperating from an illness.

•

CAREY WILSON, M-G-M producer, has arrived here via American Airlines from Hollywood.

•

OTTO PREMINGER, 20th Century-Fox producer-director, is in town from the Coast.

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to Universal-International general sales chief WILLIAM A. SCULLY, returned to New York yesterday from the Mountain territory.

•

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR., who will be master-of-ceremonies at a dinner tendered by the American Association for the United Nations at the Waldorf-Astoria on Sept. 20, is due here next Tuesday from California.

•

MAE WEST, ANTONIO MORENO and DIANA WYNYARD sailed for England yesterday on the *SS Queen Mary* from New York.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will return to New York today from Pittsburgh and Cleveland.

•

ORSON WELLES is due here tomorrow from the Coast and will leave for London later in the day for talks with SIR ALEXANDER KORDA.

Asks NY Bldg. Code Aid Small Theatres

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 11.—Special consideration for the small, independent theatres, in the proposed revision of the New York State code regulating places for public safety, is urged by Leonard Rosenthal, attorney for 14 Smalley theatres, in a memorandum to the Board of Standards and Appeals.

He pointed out that the three industry representatives on Industrial Commissioner Edward Corsi's advisory committee—Harry Anderson of Paramount; Lou Lazar, Schine Circuit, and Harry Moskowitz and Theodore Jung, Loew's—could not represent "the full interest of the small, independent theatre." Distributor circuit theatres now conform to many of the proposed changes, he added, and "they have been able to control the newest and largest theatres," in the state.

The proposed changes, therefore, will "affect mostly those not able to enjoy the favorable position of big operation," he declared.

Picture Pioneers' Annual Meet Nov. 19

Annual get-together of the Picture Pioneers will be held at the Hotel Plaza here on Nov. 19, according to Jack Cohn, president.

November marks the eighth birthday of the Pioneers, and to commemorate the event, it is being dedicated to exhibitor members. Max A. Cohen has been named chairman of the dinner committee.

Filmack Names Smith

CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—Milton Smith, formerly with RKO Radio, has been appointed sales manager of Filmack's new California branch. His territory will include the entire West.

Managers Get Awards At Fox Midwest Meet

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 11.—Prizes were awarded to managers at the 16th annual convention of Fox Midwest at the Hotel Muehlebach here yesterday.

The following received awards for showmanship achievements during the 13 weeks of the fifth "Charles Skouras Showmanship Campaign": Charles Barnes, Kansas City; Howard Busey, Wichita; Roger Ruddick, Kansas City; Jack Maes, Ottawa; Woody Hilsebeck, Iola, Kas.; Rock Mayo, Salina, Kas.; L. B. Sponsler, Ft. Scott, Kas.; Willis Shaffer, Atchison, Kas.; Leo Davis, Kansas City; Nick Sonday, Kansas City; Richard Wright, Benton, Ill.; Frank Gallagher, Centralia, Ill.; Eldon DeSilva, Marion, Ill.; Glenn Carroll, Cape Girardeau, Mo.

NBC Sets Coverage For Freedom Train

The start of the American Heritage Foundation's Freedom Train will be covered by NBC's television station WNBT on film and in "live action" in Philadelphia on Sept. 17, and when it arrives here Sept. 26.

Freedom Train will make a year-long tour of 300 communities in 48 states. Objective is to display the documents which served as the basis of American democracy.

Schenck, Moskowitz Sold Loew's Shares

Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, reported to the Securities & Exchange Commission that he sold 40,000 shares of Loew's common stock in August, leaving him with 21,727 shares held directly.

C. C. Moskowitz, vice-president and treasurer, reported the sale of 1,000 shares of Loew's common in August, reducing his direct holdings to 2,500 shares.

Appoint Roth E-L District Manager

Appointment of Max Roth as Eagle-Lion district manager for Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Indianapolis exchanges, has been announced by A. W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and general sales manager. Roth, industry distribution veteran, will make his headquarters at the Chicago exchange.

Serving under Roth will be Harry Mandel as Chicago branch mana[illegible] Clarence Phillips, as Chicago [illegible] manager; Abbott M. Swartz, Minneapolis manager; Joe Imhof, Milwaukee manager; and Sam Abrams, Indianapolis manager.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
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B'WAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
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'BLACK GOLD'
IN CINECOLOR
ANTHONY QUINN
IN PERSON
ED SULLIVAN
HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
MONICA LEWIS
Extra!
Paul WINCHELL

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

BETTY GRABLE . DAN DAILEY
"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE
JACK HALEY . ELLA LOGAN
Extra: JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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MPA Awaits Official News of British Stand

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—Motion Picture Association executives, commenting on Prime Minister Attlee's announcement that the Labor Government is prepared to discuss a substitute for the 75 per cent *ad valorem* levy on films, declare here that the A[illegible]can film industry will await offi[illegible] word from the British before taking action.

Disclosure of Attlee's preparedness to consider an alternative to the 75 per cent levy which would serve the same purpose of the tax—that of conserving Britain's supply of dollars—was made in a reply by Attlee to a letter from the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association. The Prime Minister explained that the tax was motivated by his country's unfavorable trade position, rather than by a desire to exclude American films from British screens.

Eric Johnston, MPA president, who is ill in the hospital, could not be reached for comment.

May Call Session

(*Continued from page* 1)

ports from the United States and also relieve the strain on trade with Great Britain, which is no longer able to pay for Canadian goods in United States dollars to help Canada's position. What imports will be affected, only the future can tell. But, if films from Hollywood are brought under any restriction, British pictures might meet similar treatment.

Transversely, Canadian film exports to the British West Indies appear to be shut off through the decision of the Atlantic colonies to cut business with dollar countries, of which Canada is one.

Nelson in Washington

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, is in Washington and is expected to meet with Government officials tomorrow on the subject of the British tax. Nelson is accompanied by Melvin Faris, his executive assistant, and Robert Rubin, assistant in charge of distribution. He will return to New York Saturday.

Rank Gets Color Unit

LONDON, Sept. 11.—J. Arthur Rank has secured use of one of four Technicolor cameras here, following the Government's refusal to grant dollars to obtain color stock and a camera from America, for "Blue Lagoon." Shooting is expected to begin at the end of the year in the Fiji Islands, with completion in the Pinewood Studios.

Oxford Office Here

Oxford Films, distributors in the U. S. of foreign-made pictures, has opened an office in New York City, it was announced here yesterday by Edward L. Kingsley, president.

Benefit Premiere

World premiere of "My Father's House," feature on Palestine, will be for the benefit of the Jewish National Fund. The film will open at the Ambassador Theatre here on Sept. 25.

Vending Machines Ruled Out of Lobbies

MIDDLETON, O., Sept. 11.—Charging violations of the state building code and city fire ordinance by obstructing lobbies, fire chief William Fishbaugh has ordered local theatres to comply with a restraining order, and remove by Sept. 14, all vending and dispensing machines, confectionery counters and standee rails under penalty of closing the theatres.

The Northio Paramount, largest house here, has taken space in an adjoining store into the wall of which a hole will be cut leading into a confection booth, with the front flush with the lobby, thus permitting sales without obstruction.

The Sorg and Strand, units of the same chain, as well as other houses, will discontinue lobby sales.

Winn Will Manage UA Buffalo Exchange

James L. Winn has been appointed Buffalo branch manager for United Artists by J. J. Unger, general sales manager. He succeeds Matt Sullivan, resigned.

Winn joined United Artists as St. Louis manager in 1942 after serving in sales posts for Warner Brothers. He has since been sales representative in the New England territory. In his Buffalo post, Winn will operate under the supervision of Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern and Canadian sales manager.

Wallis Plans No Cut In Production Budget

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Despite loss of revenue from the British market, Hal Wallis announces he plans no curtailment in the number of pictures he will produce, or in budgets originally designated. Wallis, who just returned here from London, where he made "So Evil My Love" for Paramount British, plans to return to England next spring for another film.

Wallis is now working on product to be made this fall for Paramount release, including "Sorry, Wrong Number" and "Be Still, My Love."

Elmer's Dream Comes True Next Tuesday

Elmer, the pigeon, who appears in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," will be entertained at a luncheon in his honor at the Latin Quarter Restaurant here next Tuesday. Following the luncheon Elmer will take to the air waves on the Maggi McNellis program over the ABC network at 2:00 P.M. (EDT), with the assistance of Lynn Farnol, Eastern advertising-publicity manager for Goldwyn, in the role of Elmer's mouthpiece.

Excise Taxes

(*Continued from page* 1)

Means Committee before hearings on tax revision open in November.

The special committee, which just concluded a two-day meeting here, will meet again on Oct. 21, when specific recommendations on tax revision will be "whipped into shape."

Boswell Magill, former undersecretary of the Treasury, is chairman of the special committee.

Bi-zonal Licenses to Aid German Filming

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Sept. 8 (By Airmail).—The bi-zonal licenses permitting the same German product to be shown in both the British and American zones are regarded here as an important aid to German production. Definite plans have been made for the production of five such German-made pictures, and four other pictures are tentatively scheduled.

Capital for production is scarce here, however, and remittances are slow because of the difficulty in obtaining enough prints for widespread showings. There is also a shortage of directors.

In the British sector of the bi-zonal production field, plans for special studios in Hamburg are being pushed forward. A small company, Alsterfilm-Gesellschaft, has been formed, but it seems that the Goettingen studios of the Filmaufbau will take over most of the production for at least another year. The Goettingen studios are nearing completion.

Seltzer Prod., 20th In Distribution Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—Frank Seltzer Productions, which is backed by James Nasser, has signed a contract to produce three features for 20th Century-Fox distribution. The deal, it is understood, may be extended to six. Seltzer, who recently resigned as sales manager for Hal Roach productions, is associated with Hugh King, former David O. Selznick story editor, in the new company.

Amusement Tax Threat

GREENSBORO, N. C., Sept. 11.—A city amusement tax looms as a possibility for Greensboro, according to Councilman Thomas Brown, chairman of the council's finance committee. Montgomery S. Hill, president of North Carolina Theatres, Inc., attacked the possible tax as "discriminatory" and asserted that theatres "are carrying more than their share."

Watts with B. L. Ogron

CLEVELAND, Sept. 11.—Jack Watts, with the Cleveland office of National Theatre Supply for seven years, has resigned to join the sales force of Ohio Theatre Supply, here, headed by Ben L. Ogron.

Michalson

(*Continued from page* 1)

been dissolved as such. Austrian resigned to become vice-president in charge of television for Foote, Cone and Belding, advertising agency for RKO.

"Our activities will continue pretty much as they did while Austrian was with us," Michalson said yesterday, and indicated that it may be many months before an RKO Pathe television department head is named. It appears, he said, as though the television department's efforts will center largely on commercial activity. "Whatever is done will be done in conjunction with Austrian in his new post," he added.

Hollywood

By WILLIAM McGRATH

Hollywood, Sept. 11

TWO of Hollywood's popular stars, Randolph Scott and Dennis O'Keefe, have teamed as co-producers and stars. Their first film under this pairing of both talents and finances will be "Draw Sabres," action story of a U. S. Cavalry regiment during the early Indian wars. Negotiations are on for release of the picture through Eagle-Lion. . . . Columbia currently has 19 features in the studio's cutting rooms, a new peak for that studio. . . . The first production for Michael Curtiz Productions in 1948 will be "The 49ers," Western story which will be filmed in Technicolor. . . . Doris Day will play the top feminine role in it, with Curtiz as director and George Amy as producer for Warner release.

●

A present-day original story of life in Washington, D. C., entitled "White House Girl," has been set as the next starring vehicle for Deanna Durbin, at Universal-International. Karl Tunberg, author of the yarn, will produce, with William Seiter as director. Deanna's role will be that of a switchboard operator in the White House. . . . An original screen story, adapted from a one-act play, "The Great Man's Whiskers," is scheduled for autumn production by RKO Radio. It is a comedy drama revolving about the era and personality of Abraham Lincoln.

●

"The Vanishing Express," an incident based on the bandit careers of Jesse and Frank James, has been purchased by Republic, with Joseph Kane as producer-director. William Elliot and John Caroll will co-star as the James Brothers, the fourth time that these actors have been starred together. . . . Five pictures are schedued to go before the cameras at Monogram this month.

●

Frank Capra, on a loanout deal with M-G-M, has signed Robert Walker to play the role of a glib-talking publicity man in Liberty Films' production of "State of the Union," which stars Spencer Tracy and Claudette Colbert, and will be released by M-G-M. . . . Jose Ferrer, whose portrayal of the role of Cyrano de Bergerac on Broadway won him acclaim, will play the role of the Dauphin in "Joan of Lorraine," Ingrid Bergman starrer. It will be the Latin actor's first screen role. . . . Barbara Stanwyck has checked in at M-G-M for her title role in the screen version of "B.F.'s Daughter."

●

Monogram producer, Hal E. Chester, has named Edward A. Blatt to direct the Allied Artists production, "Smart Woman." Blatt was formerly associated with Mark Hellinger at Universal-International.

REEVES
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Disc Recording Facilities

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Backed with excellent exploitation and a stage show, "Mother Wore Tights" at the Chicago leads in the Loop. Business generally was spotty. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 11:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $15,000)
CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $26,000)
CRY WOLF (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,500)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) ($1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $43,000. (Average: $30,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) With stage show. Gross: $66,000. (Average: $59,000)
PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,080) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $17,000)
THAT'S MY MAN (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c) With stage show. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $40,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO ($1,200) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $11,000 (Average: $12,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

Business was generally poor this week. Notable exceptions were "Down to Earth" and "Kiss of Death." Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 10:

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $15,000)
HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $9,000)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $19,500)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $23,000)
STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE (20th-Fox reissue) and LES MISERABLES (20th-Fox reissue)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and KILLER AT LARGE (E-L)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 8th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $18,000)

BUFFALO

"Desert Fury" and "Second Chance" on a double bill led here. The weather was unusually warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 13:

BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $16,000)
CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $12,600. (Average: $10,000)
DESERT FURY (Para.) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $23,400. (Average: $19,000)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 4th week on a moveover. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $6,000)
SLAVE GIRL (U-I) and THE MILLERSON CASE (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $51,000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)

DENVER

"Crossfire," producing a lot of discussion here, helped grosses at the Orpheum. "Welcome Stranger" was strong in its second week at the Denham and is holding. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 10:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio) and THE YANKEE FAKIR (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,500)
CRY WOLF (WB) and SON OF RUSTY (Col.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). After one week each at the Denver and Webber. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,000)
DILLINGER (Mono.) and MUTINY IN THE BIG HOUSE (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)
FRAMED (Col.) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,250. (Average: $2,000)
FRAMED (Col.) and SPORT OF KINGS (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Esquire. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) and THE PRETENDER (Rep.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Esquire. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I) and THE PRETENDER (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c). Day-and-date with the Denver. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000)
WESTERN UNION (20th-Fox) and ROMAN SCANDALS (FC)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

Today's Ascap Meet

(Continued from page 1)

representatives, Fred Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association of N. Y., will participate.

The invitation sent to the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners was declined by Robert Poole, executive secretary, who said PCCITO would not be represented because of "the time element involved" and because apparently today's conference would be only a "preliminary one." The wording of this declination, ATA and MPTOA officials believe, would imply that PCCITO will attend any subsequent meetings which may be held with Ascap.

Allied States will not be represented at the meeting. Allied president Jack Kirsch, who called on Coyne yesterday "to pay his respects," will leave New York today for Chicago.

As stated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, Ascap management has not been authorized to negotiate a compromise license rate increase and authorization to negotiate a compromise must be given in advance by the Ascap board of directors. Such authorization has not been requested by the management, it was said. Today's meeting, however, is expected to go a long way toward determining whether or not Ascap is disposed to open its new licensing formula to negotiation with exhibitors.

Lawler Quits Circuit

CHICAGO, Sept. 11.—Ralph Lawler, manager of the Central Illinois district of the Publix-Great States circuit, has resigned. Lawler was associated with the circuit for over 20 years.

'The Outlaw'

(Continued from page 1)

the city department of licenses said yesterday following attendance by License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding and members of his staff at the initial showing of "The Outlaw," which opened at eight o'clock yesterday morning at the United Artists-leased Broadway for an indefinite run on a 24-hour basis, its first showing in New York City.

Fielding, it is understood, represented the city police department as well as his own department when he viewed the picture again yesterday. This was intimated by Frank Doyle, secretary of the police department, who, acknowledging that Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander is "interested" in the introduction of "The Outlaw" to the New York City public, left it to be taken for granted that Fielding would communicate his impression of the Broadway picture to Wallander.

However, a UA advertising department spokesman said yesterday that Fielding at the Broadway showing "undoubtedly saw the same print" he and police officials saw last fall when the police department raised objections to certain scenes and the dialogue in the picture. Since the print showing at the Broadway "is the one licensed by the State," the spokesman said, "we do not know of any cuts being made."

The Broadway's admission scale for "The Outlaw" is $1 for matinees and $1.50 evenings.

Critic Says "Outlaw" at Broadway Has Been Edited

Reviewing "The Outlaw" in yesterday's *New York World-Telegram*, Barclay Hudson writes, in part: "This reviewer saw the film some months ago in Hartford. In that version there were the censorable scenes: a tussle between Jane (Russell) and Billy the Kid (Jack Beutel) in a dark stable and two shots in Jane's adobe boudoir. The latter two have been edited somewhat in the Manhattan reels."

AFL Calls Meet

(Continued from page 1)

tonight received telegraphed invitations co-signed by AFL president William Green and executive council secretary George Meany. The AMPP members were tonight conferring on their reply which will be sent tomorrow. It is understood that some or all will fly to Chicago tomorrow night.

SPG Offers Aid to PIC

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 11.—The Screen Publicists Guild has offered the full services of its 400 members to Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee of the Motion Picture Association, in the committee's campaign to "present the industry as a vital factor in the well-being and progress of the nation."

Delay Ad Film Hearing

WASHINGTON, Sept. 11.—A hearing on four advertising film companies cited by the Federal Trade Commission for restraint of trade, originally scheduled for tomorrow, has been postponed until late this month, the Commission announced here today.

SPG Asks 30% Rise In Wage Talks Here

Demands for a 30 per cent wage increase, based on the "soaring increase in the cost of living" and the "contribution made by the publicists in their work in the industry," was placed before company representatives here yesterday by the Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, CIO. More than 500 SPG members are affected.

Company representatives, headed by P. J. Scollard, said they would [illegible] the demands, and would meet [illegible] with SPG in a week or two. It was the first negotiation meeting held by the companies and the union under a wage-reopening clause of the present contract. The contract expires next September.

Colosseum

(Continued from page 1)

that they have not shared in any increase of wages which the rest of the film industry has obtained.

Beznor declared that the Colosseum was organized only after it became apparent that the individual salesman could not improve his status to keep up with the mounting cost of living.

When the Colosseum first filed with the NLRB for certification, in May, A. M. Van Dyke, of the 20th-Fox office here, president of the organization, said that it had established units in Albany, Des Moines, Denver Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, and that one was being organized in Charlotte

Immediate NLRB Action Viewed As Doubtful Under Taft Law

The question of whether the National Labor Relations Board coul immediately initiate any court actio for an enjoining order is complicate by provisions of the Taft-Hartley law

At the NLRB office here, it was sai that work on all cases is at a temporary halt until necessary affidavit swearing that union officials are no Communists are filed with the board Such affidavits have not yet been returned in large numbers.

Before the NLRB could ask fo court action, hearings would have t be held to judge the strength of th charges. Such hearings could not b held, according to the Taft-Hartle law, until the necessary affidavit financial records, etc., are filed.

It had been expected that a hearin on the certification request of th Colosseum would be held here, bu passage of the Taft-Hartley law indefinitely delayed action.

Operators Ask 'IA'

(Continued from page 1)

step into the scene next week if " becomes necessary." From the situation now existing, it would appear tha Walsh will intervene, since the projectionists and circuit heads hav been deadlocked despite numerous se sions all week.

Agreements were reached origina ly with ITOA houses and with the tres of the Joelson, Studio, Randfor and Skouras circuits. Involved in th current negotiations are RKO, Loew Warners, Paramount and Universal.

A Sept. 17 deadline has been set b the union. On that date, a mass mee ing is scheduled at Manhattan Cente at which a roll-call strike vote wou be taken.

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Nelson Seen Seeking RFC Film Loans

Further Talks Set; Also Saw Export-Import Bank

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Capital sources were speculating at the weekend that Donald M. Nelson's discussions here with John D. Goodloe chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, were on the subject of a possible RFC loan to independent motion picture producers, most of whose banking support has been withdrawn because of the British tax.

Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, flew back to the Coast after conferring with Goodloe, Robert A. Lovett, under-Secretary of State, and Clarence E. Gauss of the Export-Import Bank. He is expected to return here later in the month for talks with

(*Continued on page* 4)

Okla. T.O. Stumps For MPTOA Name

OKLAHOMA CITY, Sept. 14.—Following the recent vote of Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, an affiliate of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, in favor of a merger of the national organization with American Theatres Association and the retention of the MPTOA name following the merger, the Oklahoma unit has

(*Continued on page* 4)

Clark Will Address ATA-MPTOA Meet

U. S. Attorney-General Tom C. Clark has accepted an invitation to address the joint merger convention of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at the convention luncheon to be held at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington on Sept. 20.

"The Motion Picture Industry's Role in Public Service" will be the subject of Clark's address. He will discuss also the "Freedom Train" and its importance.

Who Called Studio Peace Meeting? Not I, Said Producers

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—The scheduled weekend meeting to settle Hollywood unions' jurisdictional troubles which the executive council of the American Federation of Labor called for Saturday here blew up when Hollywood producers informed William Green, A.F.L. president, they had not requested the meeting, as previously supposed.

The message received from the producers, Charles Boren, B. B. Kahane, Y. Frank Freeman and Ed Mannix, said, however, that they are ready to send representatives to any meeting properly set up by the AFL executive council, if they are notified in proper time and are assured that all presidents of the international unions in-

(*Continued on page* 4)

N.Y. ITOA Leaves N.J. Federation

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York has withdrawn from the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners, the membership of which will gather at the Stacy-Trent Hotel in Trenton on Sept. 22 to vote on whether the Federation

(*Continued on page* 4)

Coyne Will Leave ATA for Exhibition

Robert Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association, will remain active in the work of that organization only until the expected merger of ATA and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America is running smoothly, it is understood. Coyne will then form a circuit of his own.

More Labor Trouble For Mexico Industry

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 14. — Whether or not the 15 distributors of Mexican and foreign films, principally British, Argentinian, French and Spanish, will be able to settle wage demands of their employes, members of the powerful National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, as did the eight American distributors with their workers, will be decided on Sept. 18 at a meeting of the Labor Ministry.

Employes of the 15 distributors want pay hikes of as much as 54 to 70 per cent. So did the Americans' workers, who also threaten a strike. The Americans ended their dispute by granting a 20 per cent wage increase, which, they hope, will preclude labor trouble for the next two years.

New Zealand Concerned Over Import Emergency

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Sept. 9 (By Airmail). — Consternation has been aroused in industry circles here following the recommendations passed at the recent conferences called by Prime Minister Peter Fraser for the purpose of giving aid to Britain in the present crisis. Resolutions recommending various cuts in importations into New Zealand in order to save dollars were passed.

Both exhibitors and distributors are disturbed at the prospects of the film rental tax being increased from 25 to 40 per cent (after certain deductions for costs have been made).

In the event of an increase in the film hiring tax, it is reported that a large number of exhibitors would attempt admission increases, but it is doubtful whether the present Labor government would allow this.

The government's attitude can be interpreted as being both constructive and sympathetic towards the film industry as it recognizes the morale-building value of motion pictures. New Zealand is dependent on the British dollar holdings for its purchase of American goods, and obviously, if Britain is short of dollars, it follows that New Zealand must slow up its importation of items requiring dollar funds.

לשנה טובה תכתבו

1947 — 5708

Owners Ask Ascap for a 6-Month Stay

Ascap Board to Consider Proposal on Sept. 25

The management of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers received from exhibitors at their conference here on Friday a proposal that the present Ascap license rates be retained for another six months, beginning Oct. 1, the date on which numbers of the nation's theatres would become subject to the new high rate increases.

Ascap representatives at the meeting, who, as pointed out in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Thursday, were entirely without power to commit Ascap, told the exhibitors that they will submit their proposal to Ascap's board of directors who will weigh the matter at a meeting scheduled for Sept. 25. There was no indication whether the Ascap meeting representa-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Australia to Freeze U. S. Film Funds

CANBERRA, Australia, Sept. 14.—Prime Minister Joseph B. Chifley announces that the Australian government is taking steps to prevent transfers of large film earnings to the United States while it negotiates a permanent policy with U. S. film interests.

The government has decided to clamp down on film earnings remittances to save dollars. Chifley said legislation would be introduced if the negotiations with film companies are unsatisfactory.

He announced that the government would provide dollars to finance importation of machinery for domestic production of newsprint, another import commodity affected by austerity regulations.

U.A. Board Weighs James Mason Deal

Proposal for a deal by which James Mason, British star, would release pictures which he would produce and act in himself through United Artists was discussed by the board of directors of the company at a meeting here

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

MALCOLM KINGSBERG, head of RKO Theatres, returned to New York from Hollywood over the weekend.

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WILLIAM A. SCULLY, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal-International, will return to New York today from a month's tour of exchanges.

•

JAMES F. BYRNES, adviser to ERIC JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association president, flew to Washington from Hollywood at the weekend.

•

I. ROSENFELD, president of Simpex, left New York at the weekend by plane for France and a tour of European film capitals.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, flew to the Coast from New York at the weekend.

•

JUDGE MATTHEW M. LEVY, counsel for IATSE, has returned here after attending conferences in Chicago.

•

JOHN FARROW, Paramount director, returned to Hollywood from New York at the weekend.

•

GEORGE BROWN, Paramount studio publicity chief, flew to the Coast yesterday from here.

Services Held for Melvin E. Gillette

Funeral services for Col. Melvin E. Gillette, 54, former head of the Signal Corps Photographic Center in Long Island City, were held yesterday at the Walter B. Cooke funeral home, with burial today in Arlington Cemetery, Va.

Col. Gillette, who died here Thursday while taking an examination for a driver's license, retired in July from his Army post. He was one of the founders of the Signal Corps' motion picture section, and organized the Long Island City center in 1941.

Col. Gillette returned to this country in January from Hawaii where he had been Signal Corps Officer in the Middle Pacific Theatre. From 1943 to 1945, he was Theatre Photographic Officer in the European theatre.

Surviving are the widow, Mrs. Ruth E. Gillette, and a daughter, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Cavenaugh of Springfield, N. J.

Wingart Returns to 20th Century-Fox

Earl Wingart has been appointed assistant publicity manager to Ulric Bell at 20th Century-Fox's home office, by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity.

Wingart, a former newspaperman, has held various publicity posts with 20th-Fox and Paramount, both in Hollywood and New York, during his 28 years in the industry.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

ALLIED STATES' reasons for rejecting an invitation to attend the joint meeting of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and American Theatres Association in Washington next Friday and Saturday are significant because they constitute a policy and an attitude which, while they persist, dispel any hope that exhibitor unity may be achieved even on those matters which affect all of exhibition alike.

The reasons were presented by Abram F. Myers, Allied chairman and general counsel, last week, in a letter to Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president. They are worth examining.

"I think," Myers wrote, "that you will realize that it would not be appropriate for the president (Jack Kirsch also was invited and declined) and the chairman and general counsel of Allied to attend a merger meeting of two organizations substantially made up of affiliated theatres."

(This department suggested last week that Allied could remain away from the purely organizational sessions of the meeting and confine its attendance to only those sessions concerned with the welfare of its own members, as well as that of all other exhibitors, such as the meeting's scheduled consideration of action to counter the proposed increased music licensing rates of the American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers.)

•

Myers asserted in his letter that if he and Kirsch were to attend the meeting they would have to explain their action carefully and in great detail to independent exhibitors and "even then, it would almost certainly be misinterpreted and misunderstood."

Apparently, the independent exhibitors Myers knows are incapable of understanding some such statement as: "Your president and I are going to the meeting to determine whether other exhibitors have anything which will aid you independent exhibitors in your fight against Ascap's rate increases."

(And, on the other hand, there are many independent exhibitors who most assuredly will not understand and quite likely may misinterpret Allied's absence from a meeting which will seek means of saving *all* exhibitors some portion of an unreasonable increase in music tax payments.)

"It is Allied's established policy," Myers continued, "to cooperate with any industry group in any movement that is for the benefit of the independent exhibitors, including ATA, MPTOA or the new organization arising from the merger."

(No attempt is made to reconcile that statement with the rejection of the invitation to attend the ATA-MPTOA meeting.)

"But," Myers asserted, "Allied, as an organization of independent exhibitors, reserves the right to study all movements and policies and to arrive at conclusions uninfluenced by other elements in the industry."

(If Allied was asked to relinquish that right in order to be admitted to the meeting, it is proper for it to refuse to attend. If it wasn't, then it should reconsider its refusal.)

"Allied's cooperation in and support of worthy measures does not require that it participate in the formation of a new, mixed organization or that it fall in behind the leadership of those who have never joined or supported Allied in any manner," Myers stated.

(Who told him that would be required, and who got the invitations from Allied to join or support it in any manner?)

Myers contends that it was only recently suggested that the Washington meeting would consider trade problems, in addition to the ATA-MPTOA merger. That is not a valid objection. His office is not far removed from the convention hotel. There still is ample time to reconsider his rejection of the invitation.

"I am afraid," Myers wrote Wehrenberg, "that on this occasion you were courting a public controversy as a build-up for the meeting."

If Wehrenberg is guilty, as charged, then Myers proved himself the perfect foil.

•

The Allied policy, in effect, proclaims: "We would rather our house be destroyed than accept the aid of volunteer firemen who don't belong to our lodge."

That is all very well for the "front." But what about those trapped within the burning house?

Newsreel Parade

PRESIDENT TRUMAN bidding Rio goodbye and Freedom Train starting its tour of the nation are highlights of current newsreel releases. Other items include German captives from Russia returning home. General Eisenhower in the spotlight and assorted sports and other subjects. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 5—Free[illegible]m Train begins tour of nation. General Eisenhower apathetic about political career. President Truman sees parade marking Brazil's independence. Boat explosion. Aquaplane race. Fishing for Tuna.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 203—Make way for Freedom Train. President Truman bids Rio goodbye. General Eisenhower in spotlight. Notre Dame gridders. Sea charioteers. Star boat champ.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 6—Constitution Day special: American looks to her heritage.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 73—President Truman reviews parade in Rio. Freedom Train tour of U. S. Fourteen dead in Pittsburgh boat blast. Steeplejacks replace ancient obelisk in Rome. Russian prisoners of war return to homes in Germany. Aquaplane race. Royal Family witnesses Scottish games of skill.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 8—President Truman reviews Rio parade. Boat blast. General Eisenhower says no to boom. Coach Stagg, 85, in new job. Notre Dame gets set. German captives from Russia. Freedom Train tour.

NYC Borough Chiefs In Production Talks

The five New York City borough presidents and officials of the city fire department participated in a conference at the weekend with city film production coordinator Edward C. Maguire and a committee of film industry representatives which is advising him in connection with the city's program for expediting production operations in the East. Two more meetings with city departmental executives will take place this week.

The industry committee includes W D. Kelly, Loew's; Hal Hode, Columbia; L. E. Thompson, RKO, and Tom Mead and Gilbert Kurland, Universal-International.

U-I Moves Into Neu Offices Sept. 27-28

After numerous postponements due to construction delays, the Universal-International home office is schedulec to move to the new Tishman Building at 57th Street and Park Avenue her over the weekend of Sept. 27-28. Th move was first scheduled for last May

Monroe Greenthal Advertising Agency, which handles the U-I anc associated accounts, will move to its new quarters in the Tishman Bldg next weekend.

MPF Mail Vote Here

Sol Strausberg has been named b Max A. Cohen, temporary chairma of the New York area unit of th Motion Picture Foundation, to super vise tallying in connection with th election of a national trustee, perma nent chairman and other officers fro among the 17 MPF committeeme here who have already been electe It is expected that all ballots will b mailed to Strausberg this week.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubc New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James I Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Edito Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Pete Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motic Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 187 Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Tulsa Goes

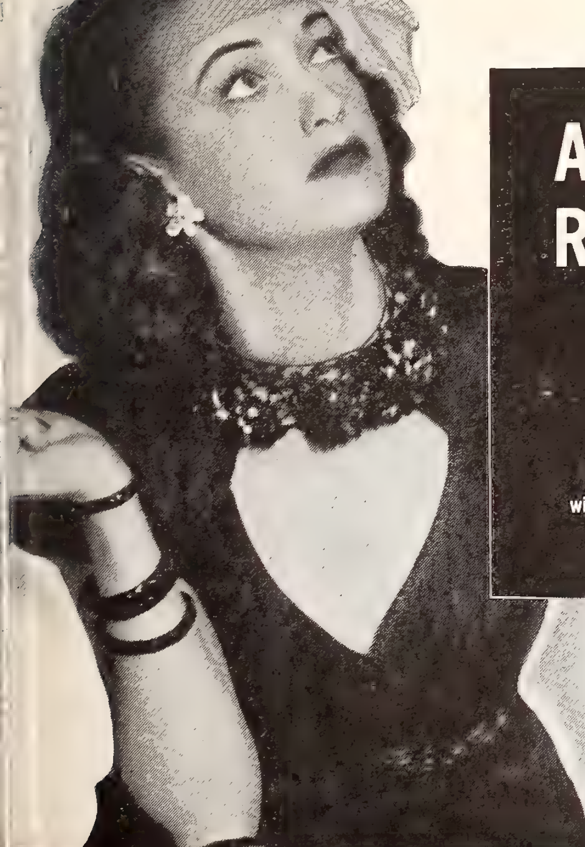
WILD

over the thrills
and thrilling stars of

"WILD HARVEST"

as it matches "Calcutta" opening, tops it 2nd day, zooms $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ ahead 1st week-end. Here and everywhere another smash from

Paramount



ALAN LADD · DOROTHY LAMOUR
ROBERT PRESTON · LLOYD NOLAN
in
"WILD HARVEST"

with DICK ERDMAN · ALLEN JENKINS · Produced by ROBERT FELLOWS · Directed by TAY GARNETT
Screen Play by John Monks, Jr.

All Eyes
on Pittsburgh!
"UNCONQUERED"
World Premiere,
Oct. 3

MPA Backs 'Power Behind the Nation'

To help create a new crusading spirit for the American system and to promote the American way of life, the Motion Picture Association is sponsoring "Power Behind the Nation," a two-reel short in Technicolor that was produced and will be distributed by Warner Brothers, it was announced at the weekend by Eric Johnston, MPA president, a statement from the MPA declared.

"Increased production is the key to America's power and to world recovery," Johnston's statement said. "'Power Behind the Nation' is one of several public service films which the members of our organization propose to sponsor jointly," it added.

Two hundred prints of the film will be shown simultaneously in theatres throughout the country on Oct. 11, according to present plans. The subject will be sold to exhibitors who desire to play them as a public service to patrons, and the net above the cost of production and distribution derived from film rentals will be turned over to the Damon Runyon Memorial Cancer Fund, which has been guaranteed at least $50,000.

RFC Loan

(Continued from page 1)

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association.

Nelson will accompany Johnston or another MPA official to London for talks with the British government on the *ad valorem* tax in the near future.

It is believed that independent motion picture producers will not be able to restore their previous financing by banks until the British tax situation is settled.

Johnston Leaves Hospital; To Convalesce Two Weeks

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14. — Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has left the hospital where he has been undergoing treatment for bursitis. Johnston faces a period of treatment and convalescence at home, however, and will see few visitors.

MPA officials do not expect him to be back at his desk before another two or three weeks.

Para., Warners Buy Additional Stock

Tempo of Paramount's stock purchasing program declined sharply last month, but company spokesmen said the drop in purchases of the company's common securities in the open market did not result necessarily from the British tax situation. They pointed out that availability of shares on the open market and other stock market factors influence purchasing of shares.

During August the company purchased 25,900 additional shares, to bring its holdings to 473,000 since its stock-buying program was announced by president Barney Balaban last November.

Previous monthly purchase totals were: November, 23,000; December, 35,000; January, 38,408; February, 23,792; March, 72,500; April, 72,300; May, 70,300; June, 44,300, and July, 67,500.

Warners last month bought 1,800 shares of its common stock on the open market to bring its total to 107,180.

Studio Peace Meet

(Continued from page 1)

volved in the Hollywood controversy would be present.

Previously, Green was informed by Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, that he, Walsh, would be unable to attend the meeting here.

In giving his reasons for declining, Walsh said he had learned that the projected meeting had been called by the Conference of Studio Unions, not the producers, and reminded Green that CSU is not recognized by the AFL. Calling CSU a Communist organization, Walsh said he would not attend any meeting called by it. He said the fact that a CSU suit is pending against IATSE in California also prevented him from consorting with that organization.

Walsh stated further that after last Sunday's meeting here which he attended with other international presidents it had been agreed to take up the jurisdictional questions again on Oct. 20 in Hollywood. Walsh said no reason had been advanced to justify the AFL executive council in injecting itself into the situation to the detriment of the arrangements already made to settle the dispute.

Reminding Green that he, Walsh, had travelled all over the country to "peace" meetings on the subject during the past several years, Walsh said a halt to it must be called sometime, and "this is the time to do it." He pointed out the New York projectionists' local is involved in a walkout threat, presenting a "very serious" situation, which requires his attention.

Ascap Stay

(Continued from page 1)

tives will recommend favorable or unfavorable consideration of the proposal to the board. The board alone has power to accept the proposal.

Representing theatres at the meeting, which was described as "friendly," were S. H. Fabian, president; Robert Coyne, executive director and Leonard Goldenson of the American Theatres Association; Herman Levy, general counsel of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; Fred Schwartz, president, and Murray Garfein, counsel, of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association of New York; Joseph Uvick, a director of Allied Theatres of Michigan, and Dave Newman of Cooperative Theatres of Michigan. No other exhibitor organizations were represented. Ted Gamble, ATA board chairman, who was scheduled to attend, was delayed en route to New York from Portland, Ore., and did not arrive in time to participate.

Ascap representatives at the meeting were Herman Greenberg, sales manager; Gene Buck and Harold Gray, board members; Louis Frohlich, general counsel; Herman Finkelstein, resident counsel; Richard F. Murray, director of foreign and public relations; I. T. Cohen, Eastern division manager; Jules Collins, manager of the radio division, and George Hoffman, controller.

Balaban in Chicago Address for Fund

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—Barney Balaban, president of Paramount and chairman of the United Jewish Appeal national drive to raise $170,000,000, will speak in behalf of the Jewish Welfare Fund's local drive at a dinner-meeting at the Lake Shore Country Club, here, on Sept. 18.

MPTOA Name

(Continued from page 1)

addressed a letter to all MPTOA directors urging their support on continuing the MPTOA name.

The letter also expresses apprehension over "reports" that the new organization, scheduled to be formed at the joint ATA-MPTOA convention in Washington next Friday and Saturday, will shun trade practices as ATA set out to do when it was formed about 18 months ago.

The letter, signed by Morris Loewenstein, secretary of the MPTOA and president of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, urges instead that "exhibitor politics" be shunned and that the new organization be built upon a strong leadership foundation and planned for service down to the "grass roots."

Retention of the MPTOA name also was asked by the MPTO of West Virginia in approving the proposed merger recently, and has support among numerous groups of exhibitors.

Delegates to Receive Key To the Nation's Capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—MPTOA-ATA merger delegates will be presented with the key to the nation's capital when they meet here next Friday.

Commissioner John Russell Young, president of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, will make the presentation at the opening session of the convention at the Shoreham Hotel, according to A. Julian Brylawski, chairman of the convention.

A luncheon-fashion show highlights the program for entertaining wives of delegates to the convention, according to Mrs. Sidney B. Lust, general chairman of the convention's ladies committee. The luncheon-fashion show will be held on Friday likewise in the Shoreham Hotel, and will be followed by cards and a shopping tour.

N.Y. ITOA Quits

(Continued from page 1)

shall remain as a permanent tax-fighting organization of New Jersey exhibitors. The New York ITOA said it is withdrawing because it appears that the Federation will become a permanent organization, and that while it is willing to join temporary united efforts for the common good of the industry, it is believed that the ITOA would lose self-sufficiency if it became a part of a permanent Federation. Both affiliated circuits and independents are Federation members.

The ITOA membership will meet at the Hotel Astor here on Sept. 25, at which it is expected its counsel will announce plans for requesting a court injunction to prevent Ascap from putting into effect its announced music license rate increase for theatres.

Shartin Named E-L District Manager

William Shartin has been named Eagle-Lion district manager for Cincinnati, Cleveland and Detroit. Shartin, who will make his headquarters at the Cleveland branch, will assume his new duties immediately.

Branch managers named to serve under Shartin are: Harry Bugie, Cincinnati; Mark Goldman, Cleveland; Clair Townsend, Detroit.

John Flynn in Travel Agency Business

CHICAGO, Sept. 14.—John E. Flynn, recently retired general sales manager for the Western division of M-G-M, has purchased an interest in the new James A. Fitzpatrick chain of travel agencies and will take an active part in the business.

The chain is already operating a Hollywood branch and is scheduled to open a Chicago office in the Bismarck Hotel on Oct. 1. A New Y[illegible] office is contemplated shortly [illegible] Jan. 1 and plans are in work to begin on an international scale with offices in London, Paris and Mexico.

U.A. Board

(Continued from page 1)

on Friday. The deal is still in a tentative stage.

Sources of new product for U.A. distribution from both Hollywood and abroad and financing arrangements for producers releasing through the company occupied the board at its all-day session.

Sam Dembow, Jr., was elected to the board as a representative of Mary Pickford's. He replaces Edward C. Raftery, former U.A. president, who resigned.

Gradwell L. Sears, U.A. president, cabled Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president, now in England, to return here to participate in a board meeting on Wednesday at which the British tax situation and its effects on the company and independent production will be thoroughly canvassed. The board will also continue a discussion of the suspension of financing by banks and others, of independent production, particularly with respect to its effect upon U.A.'s plans to establish a $5,000,000 revolving credit to finance producers releasing through U.A.

The board approved a deal for the use of blocked francs for production in association with the Rothschild interests in France.

Art Directors to Elect

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14.—Annual election of officers for the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors will be held here on Tuesday evening.

fly
"the Los Angeles"
United's DC-6 Mainliner 300
Luxury Flight
Leave New York 12 noon
Arrive Los Angeles 8:10 p.m.
UNITED AIR LINES
Airlines Terminal, 80 E. 42nd St. or
Pennsylvania Hotel or 1 Wall St.
Call Murray Hill 2-7300
or an authorized travel agent

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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L. 62. NO. 54 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1947 TEN CENTS

Short Subject Reissues Join Feature Trend

High Production Costs Reduce New Filming

In an effort to narrow the still widening gap between production costs and rentals, producers and distributors of short subjects are following the feature trend by going in for reissures as a regular policy, with at least 100 subjects already scheduled for 1947-48 release, a MOTION PICTURE DAILY survey reveals.

Bulk of the shorts will be cartoon comedies, musicals, travelogs and other subjects that do not become dated from year to year.

Animated cartoons, it is stated, now cost four times as much to make as they did 10 years ago—the figure having risen, on an average, from $8,000 to around $33,000 for the same

(*Continued on page 6*)

AFL Asks Studio Peace Meet Oct. 4

CHICAGO, Sept. 15.—Invitations to attend a meeting in San Francisco on Oct. 4 to attempt to settle the Hollywood studio jurisdictional dispute were sent to the international presidents of all unions involved, by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, at the direction of the AFL executive council.

The action followed the collapse of attempts late last week to arrange a similar meeting to be held here last Saturday. Green proposed the meeting on the assumption that Hollywood producers had requested it, but the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Ohio Cities Talk of Broadening Taxes

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 15.—Ohio cities can broaden the base of proposed amusement taxes by taxing all tickets sold within the city limits, said R. O. Perrott, chief of the sales and excise division of the State Tax Department, who said some ordinances being drafted by Ohio cities would tax only amusements actually conducted within

(*Continued on page 7*)

N.Y. Grosses Going Strong

New pictures at New York first-runs are manifesting pronounced box-office strength, and even holdovers, which are in the majority, appear to be holding their own nicely in a week marked by warm, humid weather. Outstanding newcomers are: "Down to Earth," plus a stage presentation, at Radio City Music Hall, and "The Outlaw," subject of long controversy, which opened at the Broadway last Thursday. Holdover strength is still being demonstrated by "Life with Father," at the Warner; "Welcome Stranger," at the Paramount; "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," at the Astor, and "Crossfire," at the Rivoli.

First week of "Down to Earth" is aiming for an excellent $147,000; the first four days drew $90,000. "The

(*Continued on page 6*)

Russians in Seizure Of German Houses

By H. ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Sept. 10 (By Airmail).—By decree of the Mecklenburg Ministry of the Interior all owners of film theatres in that German state, lying in the Soviet Zone of occupation, have been seized. A circular letter addressed to them states in part that even though the addressees had not belonged to the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Brazil Reverses Equipment Stand

Rio De Janeiro, Sept. 15.—Motion picture equipment has been ordered by the Brazilian government to be reclassified from class one to class four priority, which automatically makes exchange available for its importation.

'Draft Gamble' for TOA Move Growing

There is a "technical loophole"—characterization of merged exhibitor organizations as representing a "new" single unit—through which Ted R. Gamble, American Theatres Association board chairman, might be induced to step into the top spot of the organization which will evolve from the merger this week of ATA and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, is appeared yesterday.

Queried here on his reaction to moves being planned in MPTOA-ATA circles to draft him for the presidency of the merger unit, as reported last week in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Gamble reiterated that he is opposed to perpetuation in office of any individual or group of individuals in exhibitor organizations. Such perpetuation, he has maintained ever since ATA was organized a year-and-a-half ago, does not serve the best interests

(*Continued on page 7*)

Proposed NAB Code Imposes More Stringent Self-Control

Rules Tennessee Tax Law Is Valid

Knoxville, Sept. 15.—Special Chancellor S. E. Hodges has ruled that the amusement tax law enacted by the 1947 legislature is valid and binding. However, Judge Hodges held that the injunction which restrains officials from spending the tax money which they collect under the law should remain in effect until a decision is handed down by the State Supreme Court. Meanwhile, Knoxville and Knox county theatre owners have executed an injunction bond pending the appeal to the high tribunal.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 15.—A draft of a new "standards of practice" for the radio industry was submitted to the 25th annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters as it opened here today.

Membership discussion is set for tomorrow, and its adoption would mean that broadcasters had imposed on themselves more stringent self-regulation in station management and program content, including commercial limitations.

Its top spots limit radio commercials to a maximum of seven minutes; it carefully defines handling of mystery and crime programs; it bans sound effects calculated to shock or unduly alarm listeners: it eliminates so-called "cowcatcher" and "hitch-hiker" commercials. Divided into three major sections, the proposed in-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Plan Budget Of $200,000 For New TOA

Special Funds Needed If Ascap Fight Is Voted

Proposal will be made to the joint American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America convention at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, on Friday, that a budget be approved for the merged organization which will be at least equivalent to the $200,000 budget heretofore provided for the ATA.

Indications are that, in addition to the operating budget for the new organization, which has been tentatively named Theatre Owners of America, special provision would be required for financing any costly,

(*Continued on page 7*)

5 Alternatives for TOA's Ascap Group

The American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America Ascap committee, one of 12 committees which will be set up to make recommendations to be acted upon by the merger convention in Washington on Friday and Saturday, will be given five alternatives from which to make a decision in connection with Ascap's increased theatre music license rates, Robert Coyne, ATA executive director, disclosed yesterday.

However, regardless of the range of the five alternatives, the likelihood is that exhibitor organizations will first endeavor to negotiate a compromise license arrangement. One of the

(*Continued on page 7*)

California Owners Prepare Ascap Fight

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 15—The demand for increases in fees made by Ascap on exhibitors, has resulted in trong opposition from theatremen, here which will soon result in open

(*Continued on page 7*)

Reviewed Today

"Exposed" is reviewed on page 3.

To Hear Suit in Canada vs. Rank

TORONTO, Sept. 15.—Chief Justice J. C. McRuer today dismissed an application by the J. Arthur Rank companies, named as defendants in a lawsuit here over a contract issue, for a stay of proceedings until a decision is reached in a similar action for damages in New York City. The court's action means that the trial here would be held regardless of the hearing of the identical case in New York.

Empire-Universal Films, Ltd., and United World Pictures of Canada are the plaintiffs in both suits, in which they demand Canadian distribution rights on unidentified features produced in Hollywood by Rank and American associates.

Additional defendants in the New York action include Universal Pictures and Eagle-Lion.

Application for deferment of the Toronto trial was heard by Chief Justice J. C. McRuer. Applicants included J. Arthur Rank Organization, General Theatre Finance Corp., and Rank, with Monogram of Canada also represented by counsel.

Smith, Levathes at Century Convention

Andy Smith, Jr., general sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, and Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager, will address Century Theatres' "Back to Showmanship" convention to be held Sept. 30 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, it was announced yesterday by Fred J. Schwartz, Century's vice-president.

Smith will discuss showmanship as it relates to Hollywood product and will highlight West Coast awareness of the need for producing "showmanship" pictures. Levathes will explain how short subjects can be used to strengthen weak programs and reinforce strong ones, stressing the fact that the application of showmanship methods to one- and two-reelers can mean extra box-office.

Al Herman Is Named E-L District Head

Al Herman has been named by A. W. Schwalberg, Eagle Lion Films distribution vice-president, to be district manager for Buffalo and Albany. Herman, industry veteran of distribution, will assume his new duties immediately, making his headquarters at the Buffalo exchange.

Serving under Herman will be Lewis J. Lieser as Buffalo manager, and Harry S. Alexander in Albany.

James of Indiana Raps Censorship

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 15.—Censorship of any type is not a legislative problem, Lt. Gov. Richard T. James declared and the Indiana Legislative Advisory Committee, meeting in his office, concurred in the sentiment by turning down a suggestion from a member of the Indiana General Assembly that it back a bill calling for censorship of radio programs considered bad for juveniles.

Personal Mention

TED R. GAMBLE, board chairman of the American Theatres Association, will leave New York tomorrow for Washington.

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MARTHA SELLMEYER, M-G-M story department receptionist, here, is leaving M-G-M to return to her home in Los Angeles. She will be replaced by FLORENCE MANNIX.

•

FRANK COLLINS, executive director of Chakeres Theatres, Springfield, O., has returned from a month's vacation in Michigan.

•

NELSON M. WRIGHT has resigned as manager of the Strand, Pittsfield, Mass., to become a partner in an automotive firm.

•

G. S. EYSSELL, president and managing director of New York's Radio City Music Hall, is en route to Hollywood.

•

CLAYLAND T. MORGAN, assistant to National Broadcasting president NILES TRAMMELL, was injured in a fall at Atlantic City at the weekend.

•

TOM WALTON, veteran Toronto exhibitor, has come out of retirement with the purchase of the Eclipse Theatre in that city.

•

TED O'SHEA, Paramount sales executive, has returned here from Buffalo.

•

WILLIAM WYLER has postponed his departure from New York to the Coast until late this week.

•

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram's Latin American supervisor, is en route to Havana from New York.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, assistant general sales manager of Universal-International, will leave here today for Philadelphia.

•

STEVE BROIDY, Monogram-Allied Artists president, and NORTON V. RITCHEY, president of Monogram International, are back in London from Paris and Rome, and are expected back in New York Oct. 1 on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

CHARLES BRACKETT, WILLIAM WILDER and RAY MILLAND are among those due to arrive here today from England aboard the *S. S. Queen Elizabeth.*

•

ROY P. ROSSER, JR., assistant manager of National Theatre Supply's export division, left New York by plane yesterday for Ireland on the first leg of a world tour.

•

BETTE JANE GEISSER, former secretary of National Theatres' president CHARLES SKOURAS, was married in Hollywood on Friday to JOHN HEALY of National.

•

JACK DAVIS, managing director of the British Monseigneur News Theatre Circuit, has arrived in New York from England.

•

LOUIS HUDSON, manager of the Hill Top, Louisville, has returned there from an Indiana vacation.

•

HAROLD ALLRED has succeeded HORACE YELTON, resigned, as manager of the Carolina Theatre, Spindale, N. C.

•

BURGESS MEREDITH has left here for Hollywood.

Wilschke Holding Field Meetings

LOUISVILLLE, Sept. 15. — Elmer Wilschke, operations manager of Altec Service out of New York, was in town visiting with managers and engineers of the Cincinnati territory. A meeting discussing problems in the territory was held at the Falls City Theatre Equipment Co. On hand with Mr. Wilschke were M. G. Thomas, Altec's district manager, Cincinnati; Frank B. Evans, newly-appointed branch manager, Cincinnati, who was transferred from a similar position in Philadelphia; Frank Riffle, field manager of the Louisville area, and Kenneth Kaiser and Lester Grewell, Altec engineers out of Louisville.

Wilschke is on a tour of the country.

Murphy's Mother Dies

A funeral mass will be celebrated tomorrow at Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church, Brooklyn, at 10:00 A.M., for Mrs. Margaret Murphy, mother of William Murphy, manager of Republic's New York exchange, who died at her Brooklyn home on Saturday night. Services will be conducted this evening at Kennedy's Funeral Home, Church and Rogers Avenues, in the same borough.

More Subjects for Industry's Shorts

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—Motion Picture Association officials are having scripts prepared on three more subjects for possible use in the industry-short series. The subjects are: The veterans problem, with emphasis on new types of medical treatment; conservation of natural resources, and freedom of press, radio, and motion pictures.

Officials emphasized that the shorts are still in the very early planning stage and that no details are available as to when they might be made.

Services Today for George H. Dillon

Funeral services will be held today for George H. Dillon, former salesman for RKO Radio out of Pittsburgh, who died Saturday after a long illness. Monsignor Dillon, a brother, will say High Mass at St. Thomas Church, Woodhaven, Long Island.

Widely known throughout the industry, Dillon was a film veteran for more than 25 years. At one time he was district manager for PDC and had been with Pathe and other companies. Besides his brother, he leaves a widow, daughter and two sisters.

$100,000 for Kanin Play

"Born Yesterday," the play, has been purchased as a starring vehicle for Rita Hayworth by Columbia Pictures, for an initial payment of $100,000 and further payments over a period of years will be paid to Garson Kanin, the author, and Max Gordon, producer of the play.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
B'WAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN 1st N. Y. Showing! 'BLACK GOLD' IN CINECOLOR ANTHONY QUINN
IN PERSON ED SULLIVAN HARVEST MOON DANCE WINNERS
MONICA LEWIS
Extra! Paul WINCHELL

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person! CARMEN CAVALLARO And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

DEVONSHIRE FILMS Presents
VIVIEN LEIGH "DARK JOURNEY" SCARLET SCORES AGAIN
DAVID NIVEN ANNABELLA "DINNER AT THE RITZ" GALS—GUYS GUNS
GOTHAM — Times Square

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
HENRY FONDA • BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE • ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT
RELEASED BY RKO RADIO

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Cites 'Power' Film As a Public Service

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15.—"Power Behind the Nation," Motion Picture Association-sponsored two-reel Technicolor short subject, produced by Warners, offers exhibitors an opportunity to participate effectively in an industry wide public relations campaign, David Palfreyman, MPA director of trade relations, said here today.

"The growing interest of exhibitors in maintaining good public relations encouraged our association to sponsor this picture as a public service," he said.

"An intelligent interest in public affairs, in our country and its future, by the industry is a genuine public service to theatre patrons. I believe that theatres which show 'Power Behind the Nation' will have the support of all groups and organizations in their communities," said Palfreyman.

"This is not a money-making project," he continued. "It is offered to exhibitors as a tool for building goodwill. On the advice of leaders of national exhibitor associations whom I have consulted on the idea of a planned use of the screen for public relations purposes, the net amount above the cost of production and distribution from film rentals paid by exhibitors for 'Power Behind the Nation' will be turned over to the Damon Runyon Cancer Fund. This means that every exhibitor who shows the picture is making a definite, substantial contribution to the Cancer Fund, one of the outstanding charities today."

Cantor Sponsoring Benefit Premiere

Eddie Cantor will sponsor the world premiere of "My Father's House" at the Ambassador Theatre, here, on Thursday evening, Sept. 25, and will be host to a large group of notables. The entire proceeds of the opening will go to the Jewish National Fund.

"My Father's House" is Palestine's first feature. Directed by Herbert Kline, from a novel by Meyer Levin, it has an all English-speaking Palestinian cast, with the entire production filmed at actual locales in the Holy Land. Following the premiere at advanced prices, "My Father's House" will be seen on a popular-priced continuous-performance schedule.

Marathon Pictures Moves to New York

Frank Satenstein and Robert Joseph, president and vice-president, respectively, of Marathon Pictures, have transferred all of their film production activities to New York, from the Coast, thus establishing the company as one of the first to heed Mayor O'Dwyer's invitation to producers to make the city a filming center.

Marathon will inaugurate its production schedule here about Nov. 1, when shooting will start on "Closeup," original purchased from RKO Radio. John Ireland will be starred and the screenplay will be written by John Bright and Max Wilk.

'Dolphin' After 'GWTW'

"Green Dolphin Street," M-G-M, will have its Broadway premiere at the Criterion Theatre when the current run of "Gone with the Wind" at that house comes to an end, probably toward the end of October.

Review

"Exposed"

(*Republic*)

Hollywood, Sept. 15

SUBSTITUTION of dialogue for action, and reliance upon one character to carry the narrative from sequence to sequence, combine to impair associate producer William J. O'Sullivan's production of a story by Charles Moran, scripted by the author and Royal Cole, which has novelty of conception in its favor but, as executed, odds of consequence against it. Adele Mara is the name supplied for the marquee, and the fact that she portrays a detective in the tradition of radio's and the screen's "private eyes" is a circumstance rating mention. Aside from these angles, the film hugs, when it does not beg, the line of routine.

The script installs Miss Mara in the job of discovering why a businessman's son has resigned his position as an official in the company founded by his father, and why he has begun withdrawing funds from his private fortune, in large amounts. When her employer is found dead, Miss Mara, whose father is the inspector of police assigned to the case, vies with the authorities for a solution of the murder, winning out after all concerned, in the tradition of such murder mysteries, have been suspected of the killing. Miss Mara's support includes Robert Armstrong, Robert Scott, Bob Steele, Adrian Booth, William Haade, Joyce Compton, Harry Shannon, Russell Hicks, Paul Burns, Colin Campbell and Edward Gargan. Direction by George Blair fails to overcome the handicaps mentioned above.

Running time. 59 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

W.J.McG.

Hellinger in Deal With Hemingway

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 15.—After nearly a year of negotiations, Ernest Hemingway and Mark Hellinger Productions, Inc., have closed a deal whereby Hellinger will bring at least four Hemingway stories to the screen during the next eight years. The pact also gives Hellinger an option on all Hemingway story properties under 30,000 words, together with any short stories the author may write until 1955.

Although the monetary terms were not announced, it was made known that Hemingway will share in the profits of all films produced from his writings. Hellinger's first independent production was an adaptation of a Hemingway short story, "The Killers." Hellinger at the same time announced that he had purchased the novel, "Knock On Any Door," by Willard Motley. It is planned for production next summer.

Coast School for Young Cameramen

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 15.—Dedicated to the furthering of cultural and artistic talents of young photographers, five Hollywood studio photographers, each a winner of one or more Academy Awards, have organized the Hollywood Foundation of Photographic Arts, which will operate on a non-profit basis and be supported by leading screen personalities, according to Daniel Rocklin, director. It will provide a course covering all branches of portrait, motion picture, glamour, publicity, advertising and commercial photography.

Besides Rocklin, the board of directors will include Ernest Bachrach, RKO Radio; Clarence Sinclair Bull, M-G-M; Roman Freulich, Republic, and Clifton Maupin, 20th Century-Fox.

Devonshire Franchise

BOSTON, Sept. 15.—Devonshire Films has sold a franchise for the Philadelphia territory to Film Classics of Philadelphia, operated by Jack Engle and Jack Greenberg.

E-L Official Sees No Tax Rise in Far East

Leading Far East motion picture importing countries are not likely to follow Britain's example in increasing taxes on imported films, according to George F. Rearden, Far Eastern supervisor of Eagle Lion Distributors, Ltd.

Even if native product were sufficient to supply local needs, the public demand for American films is so great that Asiatic government officials are not apt to put further obstacles in the way of foreign films, he said.

Rearden, en route from London to his Calcutta headquarters, stopped over in New York for a series of conferences with Eagle Lion executives, among them Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager; Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity director, and Michael Shathin of the foreign sales department.

QuebecCensors16mm. Films, Regardless

TORONTO, Sept. 15.—The Ontario government apparently has no intention of following the lead of the Quebec provincial government in invoking a new regulation requiring the censorship of all 16mm. films regardless of their purpose.

A spokesman for the Ontario theatres branch said the board examines 16mm. prints only when they are miniature editions of theatre features or films produced for entertainment. He intimated that Ontario censors are not interested in industrial or school films of narrow width. In Quebec Premier Maurice Duplessis announced that all 16mm. films would be censored, regardless of intended use, because juveniles are seeing improper pictures at places other than theatres from which they are barred.

Havana House to WB

Warner Theatres has leased the Prado Theatre in Havana, Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of the circuit discloses. The house will be completely renovated and will reopen in December.

Urge France to Lift Curbs on US Trade

If "burdensome restrictions" on American business operations in France are removed, American business is ready to help France by providing goods, production technique and capital, according to the National Foreign Trade Council. Some burdensome restrictions apply to American film and to films of other foreign countries as well.

The council's committee on France, in a 60-page report, noted that French industrial production has failed to reach sufficient volume to ease the grave inflation crisis which faces the country. The report also said that French businessmen have not shown enough understanding of the need for an all-out program to encourage exports here by improved sales organizations, greater advertising and sales promotion campaigns.

The report urged prompt negotiation of a treaty of friendship, commerce and navigation with France, and noted that the present treaty was passed in 1823.

Await Australia's Reply on 'Freezing'

Although the Australian cabinet met yesterday and presumably discussed American film industry proposals for "freezing" of one-third of its distribution revenue in that country, home offices had received no word up to late yesterday of any action having been taken at Canberra.

The American proposal is for the "freezing" in Australia of approximately $2,000,000 by removing it from an exchange basis and investing it during the ensuing 18 months in such a manner that it could not be liquidated or sold for a period of years. The actual amount to be "frozen" would be determined by the average of American companies' Australian distribution revenue for the eight months ending Sept. 1.

Home office executives said here yesterday that, until Australia officially acts on the proposal, they regard the entire remittance subject as still in process of negotiation.

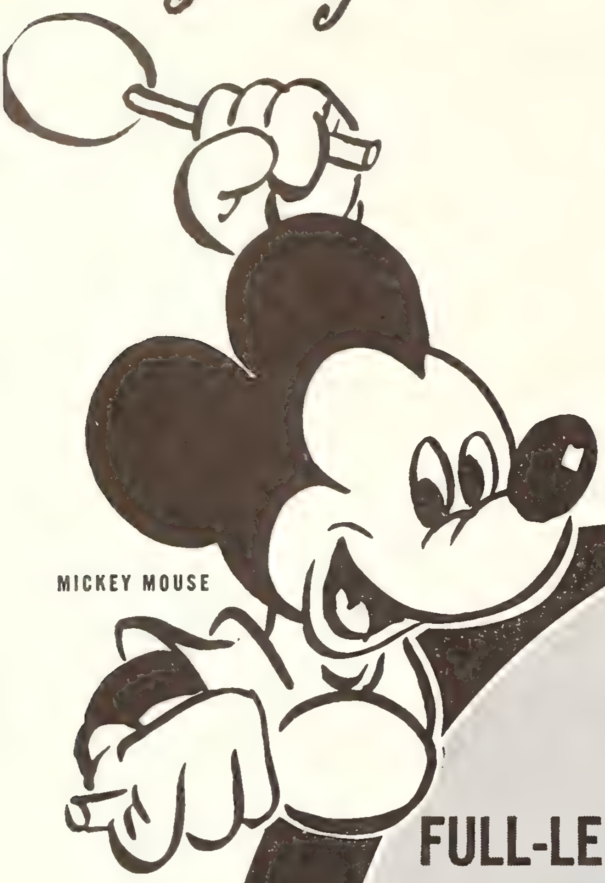
CurrentRankBudgets Unaffected by Tax

At the various J. Arthur Rank studios in England, Rank producers and directors are at present rushing to completion 10 major stories involving three technicolor productions and every key British-Rank star. Each of the 10 was planned or started prior to the Dalton tax announcement and remain unaffected as to budgeting, according to the Rank Organization here. New budgeting is affected by existing and anticipated reactions to the British film business accruing from the Dalton *ad valorem* levy on film imports.

Rioters Destroy RKO Office in Lahore

Charles O. Julian, RKO manager for India, reports that the company's branch office in Lahore has been totally burned to the ground, and the manager, R. K. Sharma, killed, the company's home office disclosed here.

Everybody's Cheering THAT "HAPPY-LUCKY" SHOW



MICKEY MOUSE

PARADE OF HIT SONGS:

"FUN AND FANCY FREE" • "LAZY COUNTRYSIDE"
"TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE" • "SAY IT WITH A SLAP"
—and others you'll be humming soon!

CHARLIE McCARTHY

Walt Disney's

FULL-LENGTH MUSICAL CARTOON FEATURE

"Fun and Fancy Free"

COLOR BY
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featuring

EDGAR BERGEN • DINAH SHORE

in the flesh, with *Charlie McCarthy* and *Mortimer Snerd.*

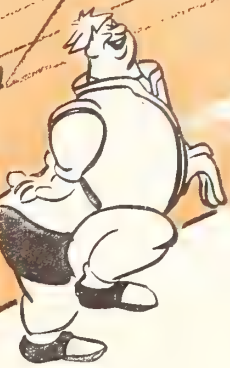
voicing the tunes and story of *Bongo,* the bear.

Distributed by—RKO RADIO PICTURES

"Tell your patrons this is the best Disney in years — it will live up to your praises! The best Disney feature since 'Pinocchio'! Songs catchy enough for hit parade popularity!"—*Film Bulletin*

BONGO

"A contribution to the gayety, delight and entertainment of the nation . . . to be loved by children, provide stimulation to adults and produce well-rounded boxoffice figures." —*Film Daily*


WILLIE THE GIANT

"All of it adds up to one of Disney's finest achievements — and sure-fire top grosses! No cartoon characters, certainly, have ever moved as smoothly across the screen!"

—*Daily Variety*

"Should be enjoyed by everyone! Disney and his craftsmen are again at their best . . . the effects they get are marvelous! Many laughs!"

—*The Exhibitor*

GOOFY

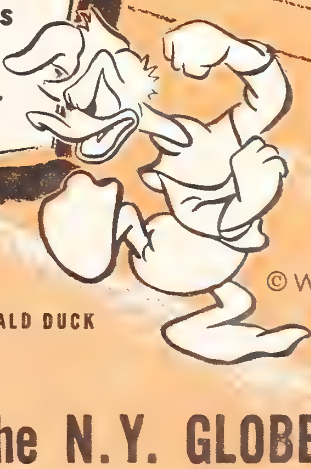
LULUBELLE

"A good bet for anybody's theatre! Children will turn out in droves! Adults will be pleasantly diverted! Suspense, hilarity and spectacle are effectively blended!"

—*The Independent*

"Designed to charm audiences of any bracket! A happy merger of live and animated talent which will do the characteristic Disney business at the boxoffice!"

—*Hollywood Reporter*


MORTIMER SNERD and DONALD DUCK

© W.D.P

WORLD PREMIERE SEPTEMBER 27th at the N.Y. GLOBE

N. Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

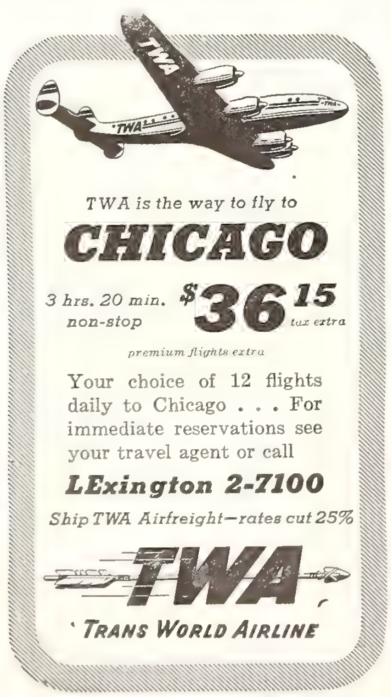
Outlaw" is heading for a smash $83,000, for the first week, which will more than double the Broadway's previous high of $40,000, grossed in a week with "Monsieur Verdoux."

Fifth week of "Life with Father" at the Warner is expected to bring a huge $40,000. At the Paramount, a solid $63,000 is seen in store for the sixth week of "Welcome Stranger." "Walter Mitty," which drew $8,981 last Saturday, is expected to bring a handsome $43,000 in its fifth week at the Astor. So strong is "Crossfire" at the Rivoli that it will remain at the house for at least 13 weeks, a singularly outstanding run at that theatre; the eighth week is expected to draw a healthy $22,500.

"Mother Wore Tights," supported by a stage show featuring Jack Haley and Ella Logan, at the Roxy, is aiming for a fairly good $89,000 in its fourth week; the hot weather is said to have hit the house. Holding up well in its second week at the Strand is "Dark Passage," with Vic Lombardo's band on stage, and an impressive $60,000 is anticipated. Also continuing to draw well is "The Roosevelt Story," which looks like a good $22,000 in its fourth week.

A moderately good $27,000 is in view for the third week of "Kiss of Death," at the Mayfair. The Palace was dark yesterday following its summer repertory program; "The Long Night" will open there today. "Second Chance" will open at the Rialto on Friday, following the one-week showing of "The Arnelo Affair," which is expected to bring only a fair $8,000. "Something in the Wind" bowed out of the Winter Garden after four weeks; "Singapore" will begin there today.

Pictures which are doing well enough to be held over are: "Gone with the Wind," in its third week at the Criterion; "Black Narcissus," in its fifth week at the Fulton; "Frieda," in its fifth week at the Park; "I Know Where I'm Going," in a fourth at the Sutton; "Tawney Pipit," in a second at the Little Carnegie. "Romance of Rosy Ridge" is in its first week at the Capitol, and "Lured" is in its third week at the Victoria.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'IA' Board Delays Interchange Accord

The international executive board of the IATSE has instructed Richard F. Walsh, president, to report to the board after further details in the pact on interchange of industry technicians between Britain and the U. S. are ironed out.

It is understood that Walsh reported to the board at its recent Boston session on the provisional agreement he reached with Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes, in London, governing interchange of industry technicians between the two countries. Approval of the board is necessary before the agreement can become effective.

While it had been expected that approval would come from the board at the Boston meeting, it is believed that the British tax situation may have changed the picture somewhat, with the result that finalization of the pact has been delayed.

AFL Peace Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

meeting failed to materialize when the producers informed him they had not.

Both the producers and Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, declined the invitation to attend last Saturday's meeting.

Green said the new meeting, which is slated for two days in advance of the opening of the AFL convention in San Francisco, would better suit the convenience of those concerned. In reply to a question, Green said he was of the opinion that Walsh would attend the proposed San Francisco meeting inasmuch as the IATSE president planned to be there for the AFL convention.

Walsh's New York office said yesterday it was unaware of an invitation to the proposed San Francisco meeting on the studio strike and, consequently, it was not known whether or not Walsh would attend.

It was pointed out that heads of the international unions concerned with the Hollywood dispute already have agreed to meet in Hollywood, Oct. 20, in a further attempt to reach a settlement.

Producers to Study Parley Bid

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 15.—Indications tonight were that the major producers would be represented at the AFL meeting on the Coast jurisdictional strike at San Francisco on Oct. 4. William Green, AFL president, called the meeting. Telegraphed invitations received by the producers today will be studied at a meeting tomorrow.

Short Subject Trend

(*Continued from page* 1)

type of reel. When print costs and distribution expenses are added, the distributor must take in around $60,000 to break even, and this is more than the average short grosses.

Band subjects that used to cost around $10,000 now involve budgets of $30,000 to $40,000, with the result that the making of this type of short has practically ceased, although many good subjects featuring popular current names are good for re-release.

Making of shorts based on musical sequences left on the cutting room floor from feature pictures also is on the increase.

$1,000,000 in Video Sets Made Weekly

Chicago, Sept. 15.—Philco is already manufacturing about $1,000,000 worth of television receivers a week (about 2,000 units), according to John H. Carmine, vice-president in charge of merchandising. It is expected this will be boosted to 3,000 sets a week in time for the holiday trade.

The company, he said, has spent some $3,000,000 to build and equip its new television plant and spent some $4,000,000 in research and development.

FCC Asked to Block Restrictions on FM

The FM Association will ask the Federal Communications Commission for a legislative hearing on a proposal to prohibit network agreements with radio stations that prevent the simultaneous broadcast of programs on both standard and frequency modulation outlets. The request was in the form of a resolution adopted here at the closing session of the group's first annual convention, at the Hotel Roosevelt.

The resolution is based on the convention's decision "that the advancement of FM at this time will best be accomplished by the duplication of regular network programs over FM facilities."

NBC Crime Programs Off Juvenile Range

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 15.—National Broadcasting and its affiliated stations have voted unanimously to restrict the broadcast times of crime and mystery programs to periods after 9:30 P. M., effective Jan. 1. The action was taken, it was said, to reduce the "exposure" of juvenile and adolescent minds to crime suggestion. This new policy was adopted in the form of a resolution at NBC's annual convention here.

Russian Seizure

(*Continued from page* 1)

National Socialist Party, they had placed the screen at the disposal of "fascist propaganda."

All capital invested in motion picture theatres has been taken over by the state.

This step is considered to be the first move toward seizing all motion picture theatres throughout the Soviet zone and Soviet sector of Berlin. The following additional details have meanwhile become known: the Soviet distributing concern, "Sovexport," had submitted contracts to the Mecklenburg theatre owners, in which the latter were to agree to play only "Sovexport" pictures for the next five years, two-thirds of the pictures to be Russian and one-third German.

The theatre owners expressed fears that such a program would lead to their financial ruin, as Soviet pictures are drawing only very small audiences. Thereupon came the decree of seizure, which is generally considered to be a severe blow to the new German film industry and also American-made motion pictures.

Meanwhile, 56 American pictures have so far been shown on German screens.

NAB Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

strument deals with standards for all programs, standards for specific programs and commercial policies.

The section on general standards covers such subjects as religion, tolerance, indecent material, narcotics, alcohol, marital and juvenile problems, while specific program standards outline provisions for news broadcasts, political broadcasts, controversial issues, religious programs, crime and mystery dramas, and children's programs.

A third section, devoted to commercial practices proposes to limit commercial time in any 15-minute segment of broadcast time to a basic three minutes.

All multiple-sponsorship programs, such as participation shows, announcement programs, musical clocks, and the like, which have previously been treated more leniently, would fall under the three-minute limitation provision for any 15-minute segment of time.

Other proposed limitations would continue to make unacceptable any advertising of "hard" liquors, occultism, fortune-telling, mind-reading and the like, matrimonial agencies, "dopester" tip-sheet or race track publications, all forms of speculative finance, and others.

The proposed standards also specify that broadcasters should not permit programs designed to "buy" the radio audience, and to influence listeners to tune in a station in the hope of a reward rather than for the quality of the program offered.

In no sense intended to relieve broadcast station licensees of responsibility for their programs, the proposed standards were drafted and exhaustively revised in the past year by a committee of active broadcasters under the policy guidance of NAB president Justin Miller.

No broadcaster should make his facilities available to or accept commercial copy for any product or service until he has satisfied himself of the integrity of the advertiser, the quality of product or value of service and validity of the claims made, and the good taste of the commercial presentation, the code urges.

Describe Film Technique To Record Video Events

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—Sept. 15.—O. B. Hanson, vice-president and chief engineer of National Broadcasting, New York City, today described a film transcription system which will permit re-television of productions to the most remote corners of the country a few hours after they take place. The system which consists of photographing the television image directly from a kinescope while a television production is being produced for the air at the key station studios, would make television as commonplace as all other electrical household devices, Hanson told a NAB broadcast engineering conference here.

FOR SALE
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16MM KODACHROME
Approximately 5400 feet
For details write
CAVALCADE PICTURES, INC.
959 SEWARD ST., HOLLYWOOD 38, CALIF.

ATOI Continues Ascap Campaign

INDIANAPOLIS, Sept. 15.—Exhibitors are urged to see their Congressmen while they are home between sessions and demand action to amend the copyright law to prohibit Ascap from employing its present tactics, in a bulletin to members issued by the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana.

"If you personally know your Congressman, please contact one of the directors in your district and consider the advisability of a group interview," the ATOI suggests. Supporting the amendment proposed by National Allied as "perhaps the only possible relief," it declares: "Explain that the fees borne by theatres in this country is in reality a fee for the same thing that has already once been charged for, and that the recording of sound on film for which such fee was paid naturally can be used for one purpose only—that is public performance for profit. This amendment would put the bargaining for the industry where it should properly be—in the hands of the producers. As it is now, when you pay for a film you have secured nothing because you must still go to Ascap and agree to pay any demands they make before you are able to use the film in your theatre.

"The producer could bargain. He could refuse to use any Ascap music if necessary. This was illustrated by the broadcasters several years ago when they secured reasonable rates by eliminating all Ascap music. The exhibitor never had this choice."

TOA's Ascap Group

(*Continued from page 1*)

alternatives stipulates negotiation with Ascap for more favorable rates.

The others are: Ascap licenses as a double charge; Ascap as a monopoly; possibility of amendment of the copyright law to prevent double charges; film producers to be influenced to use non-Ascap music. The last-mentioned would call for an arrangement similar to the one set up by the radio broadcasters, who formed Broadcasters Music. Inc., during their license controversy with Ascap several years ago.

Other committees to be established will deal with television, admission scales, audience expansion, the New York anti-trust suit, and other matters.

Prepare Ascap Fight

(*Continued from page 1*)

warfare against the alleged "unjust demands."

Spearheading the drive will probably be the California Theatres Association, representing the majority of circuit houses, and Rotus Harvey, acting for the Independent Theatre Owners Association. Chief argument will be that the new charge—as well as *any* charge—is unfair, arbitrary and a duplication of the fee already paid by producers.

The two Northern California theatre groups plan to join other national groups to effect the elimination of all such music fees and charges now in effect against exhibitors, it was said.

Short Quits Paramount

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 15.—Writer-producer Paul Short has requested and received a release from his Paramount contract, effective next month.

TOA Budget

(*Continued from page 1*)

long-range activities, such as litigation against the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, which the convention may approve.

Headquarters of the new organization will be established at ATA headquarters in the Paramount Building here, and a permanent office staff will be maintained. The posts of executive director and general counsel in the new organization will be salaried ones. Robert W. Coyne, executive director of ATA, is expected to be continued in a corresponding post with the new organization until such time as it has been firmly established. He has expressed a desire to retire to go into theatre operation thereafter.

Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, is expected to be continued in that capacity with the new organization.

Other officers of the new organization will not receive salaries.

Estimates of membership made by ATA and MPTOA officials indicate that the merged organization may have between 8,000 and 12,000 members, the variation being explained by the uncertainty over the amount of duplication of membership among units which belong to both ATA and MPTOA now.

A schedule of dues is expected to be drawn up at the coming convention. Meanwhile, it was pointed out that on the basis of a membership of 10,000, the budget for the new organization could be maintained for an average of $20 per year, per member, exclusive of special funds such as might be voted for a fight against Ascap.

Cooper, Skouras to Capital For California Exhibitors

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 15.—Delegated to attend the national ATA convention in Washington, Sept. 18-20, from Northern California, representing the California Theatres Association, will be Roy Cooper, general manager for Golden State Theatres.

Southern California will be represented by Charles P. Skouras, Fox West Coast Theatres chief; Paul Williams, of the Southern California Theatres Association; Dave Bershon and John Bertero of Fox West Coast's legal department, and possibly others.

Edward Arnold Will Speak

Actor Edward Arnold has accepted an invitation to address the merger convention of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America in Washington at the weekend, ATA announced here yesterday.

Coast Owners Will Fight New City Tax

BAKERSFIELD, Cal., Sept. 15.—In militant protest against the newly-adopted 10 per cent city amusement tax, local theatremen are mustering their forces to prove the tax unconstitutional. Under the tax, patrons must pay one cent on each 10 cents of admission above 15 cents.

Councilman Alfred Siemon, who has vigorously fathered the measure, declared if new court action finds the tax defective, he will see that it is perfected. Siemon stated that he will be supported in his fight by "every city attorney in California."

'Draft Gamble' Move

(*Continued from page 1*)

of an exhibitor group as a whole. Reminded that the merged unit, however, could well be regarded as a "new" exhibitor organization, Gamble merely shrugged his shoulders. Those who are planning to draft Gamble for the presidency, it is believed, will take full advantage of the "new organization" interpretation in their draft movement.

"Intelligence should dictate presentation to the merger convention (which will be held on Friday and Saturday at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington) of at least four or five good candidates," Gamble said, adding that he believes that many presidential possibilities can be found easily.

Other ATA-MPTOA spokesmen have said, however, that the merged organization's president would have to be an individual who is well-known nationally outside as well as within the industry. They appear unable to view anyone except Gamble as having that national stature qualification. "I am not a candidate," he stated again yesterday. During the last war he served as national director of the U. S. Treasury's War Finance Division.

Gamble repeated his hope yesterday that ultimately exhibitors of the U. S. will be united into one nationwide organization. Only in that way, he believes, can the problems which confront all exhibitors be solved properly and effectively. Affiliated circuits, he holds, have a rightful place in a solid bloc of exhibitors. Heads of those circuits have repeatedly championed exhibition's common causes, he said.

While Gamble continues as the outstanding favorite for the post as of today, there is strong support also for Si Fabian, ATA president, despite the latter's pronouncement that he will not serve. In addition, it is known that there is regional support for William F. Crockett, president of the MPTO of Virginia, and for Mack Jackson, president of Southeastern Theatre Owners Association, for the presidency of the new organization, although the support for neither of these has yet reached anything resembling the proportions of a "boom."

The names of other "favorite son" candidates are sure to be brought up at the convention, it is believed.

LOUISVILLE, Sept. 15. — Guthrie Crowe, president of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, will attend the joint convention of ATA-MPTOA at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D. C., on Sept. 18-20.

Ohio Cities Talk Tax

(*Continued from page 1*)

a municipality. He pointed out that the ordinances could legally be written to tax all tickets sold within the city limits, even though the event itself were held outside the corporate boundary.

Five more Ohio cities have approved or introduced tax legislation, effective Oct. 1 when the present state law expires. These include Lebanon, Findlay, Marion, Jackson, and Delaware, each calling for a three per cent tax.

Bernard a Branch Mgr.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 15.—Jack Bernard, former PRC salesman, has been named branch manager of the local Kay Films Exchanges' office.

The DATE!

FRIDAY

SEPT. 19th

Town Hall

12:30 NOON

AMPA

Salutes the

16MM FILM

Meet the boys and girls of this "narrow-gauge" at the first luncheon of AMPA's new regime with Arnold Stoltz, pres.

Don't Miss This One!

The Date - Sept. 19th

The Place - Town Hall

12:30 Noon

The brilliant arc between two "National" High Intensity projector carbons is brighter — per unit of area — than the heart of a V-2 rocket blast.

This powerful man-made sunlight is harnessed in your projection booth. It is snow white, perfect for bringing out detail and full rich color on your screen. And yet, compared to other operating costs, the expense of "National" projector carbons is negligible.

When "National" projector carbons are used as the light source, you give your patrons the kind of vivid, easy-to-see pictures they really enjoy. You'll find that "National" projector carbons have a definite effect upon your box office.

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. 62. NO. 55 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1947 TEN CENTS

KRS Acts to Permit Only 7-Day Credit

British Renters Move to Rectify War-Born Delay

LONDON, Sept. 16.—After much debate, the Kinematograph Renters Society has adopted a resolution, effective Nov. 1, that exhibitors be allowed only seven days' credit on film rental payments. The resolution instructs the film companies' accountants to meet to arrange means of issuing invoices well before expiration of the seven-day period, and exhibitors are urged to send remittances within that limit.

Distributors have complained about delays in payments by the exhibitors. Standard rental contracts, applying to all except large circuits, call for payment of film-hire within seven days

(*Continued on page 6*)

Wehrenberg, Levy At Tri-States Meet

MEMPHIS, Sept. 16.—Speakers at the Tri-State Motion Picture Theatre Owners convention, scheduled to be held here on Oct. 14-15 at the Hotel Chisca, will include: Fred Wehrenberg, national president of the MPTOA; Herman Levy, general counsel for MPTOA; M. L. Simons, M-G-M director of public relations; Mack Johnson president of the Southeastern Theatre Owners, and Claude Lee, Paramount director of public relations.

R. X. Williams, president of Tri-States, said he expected more than 500 exhibitors and distributors to attend.

NYC Film Planning Enters Final Stage

New York City's current preparations toward encouraging film production in the East will enter the final stage tomorrow when motion picture coordinator Edward C. Maguire, city attorneys and officials of the police, fire and electric power departments will begin a two-day meeting at which they will review the results of previous conferences between the city departments and film industry representatives. The industry representatives

(*Continued on page 7*)

Odeon Net Up to $2,683,028 in Year

London, Sept. 16.—Odeon's net last year after taxes increased to $2,683,028, from $1,940,972 in the previous year. Profit before taxes last year totaled $4,549,028, and was not as great as the $4,800,972 of 1946, but last year's tax deductions, some $1,866,000, was $1,000,000 less than the $2,860,000 of 1946 accounting for last year's higher net.

Odeon has declared a final dividend of 10 per cent, making a total of 17½ per cent for the year ended June 28.

Film Classics Sets Its 1st Convention

First national convention of Film Classics' branch heads and home office executives will be held here on Friday and Saturday at the Roosevelt Hotel, signaling the forthcoming release of "Spirit of West Point," first of the company's new pictures, which cost $500,000. Up to now FC has concentrated on reissues.

Joseph Bernhard, head of Film Classics, will preside, with Samuel Wheeler, general sales manager; Jules K. Chapman, assistant sales head; Al Zimbalist, national director of advertising-publicity, and other company executives on the dais.

Delegates to the convention will be primed in the company's new policy in selling fresh product, so that each territory will be assured proper handling

(*Continued on page 7*)

Complete E-L Sales Setup; Goldhammer, Suchman to Manage

Organization of Eagle-Lion's 31 domestic branches has been completed, and realignment of the national sales staff finalized with the appointment of L. E. (Nicky) Goldhammer as Western sales manager and Al Suchman as sales manager in the East, by A. W. Schwalberg, distribution vice-president. Both posts are new ones and both will be operated out of the home office, effective immediately.

Under the setup, 17 branches will operate under Suchman's jurisdiction, including New York, Buffalo, Albany, Boston, New Haven, Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, Charlotte, Memphis, Dallas, New Orleans and Oklahoma City.

The remaining 14 branches to be supervised by Goldhammer will include: Chicago, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Louis, Des Moines, Omaha, Los Angeles, Port-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Walsh, '306' Meet With Circuits Today

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, will enter negotiations today between projectionists Local 306 and the RKO, Loew's, Warner, Paramount and Universal circuits if, at a morning meeting of the union's membership, it is voted to accept the recommendation of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

First Industry Public Service Film Is Ready

First of a series of public service films which the Motion Picture Association proposes to sponsor, "Power Behind the Nation," has been previewed here for the trade press. It is a proud eulogy of the American way of life. A two-reel subject in Technicolor, it is slickly produced, combining entertainment and enlightenment. Not only is the exhibitor likely to find it rewarding from the standpoint of appeal, but it is the type of subject that will grace any program with intelligence and distinction.

By way of prologue, the film opens with Eric Johnston paying tribute to the U. S. screen and the American Heritage. Then, after going back to the pioneer days, the subject makes an inspired excursion of American industry and commerce today, in metropolis and hamlet, on the farm and in factories. All along the way, stress is placed on the intrinsic worth and dignity of each individual, all of whom add up to the imperishable greatness that is America.

Produced by Warner Brothers, supervised by Gordon Hollingshead, with a narration by Saul Elkins, the subject's theme is made all the more memorable by photography of breathtaking beauty. The film is available to all exhibitors desiring to play it as a public service. Net profits above costs will be contributed to the Damon Runyon Memorial Cancer Fund. Running time, 20 minutes. M.H.

McNutt Named To Speak for Film Industry

Is Engaged to Defend It Before House Committee

Paul V. McNutt, former Federal Security Administrator and former High Commissioner to the Philippines, will represent the major motion picture companies at hearings in Washington before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, scheduled to begin on Sept. 23.

McNutt's appointment was disclosed here yesterday by the Motion Picture Association. He will appear on behalf of both the MPA and the Association of Motion Picture Producers, both of which are headed by Eric Johnston.

Prior to McNutt's selection, the name of Donald R. Richberg, co-author of the Railway Labor Act of 1926 and the National Industry Recovery Act of 1933, had also been mentioned for the task.

In a statement released last night

(*Continued on page 7*)

Mills Will Address TOA's Ascap Group

E. C. Mills, former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, will address the Ascap Committee of the American Theatres Association's and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America's merger committee when it meets in Washington this weekend to formulate recommendations on the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Raymond Bell Joins Donahue and Coe

J. Raymond (Ray) Bell, who resigned recently as director of advertising and public relations for Capital Airlines, has joined the executive staff of Donohue and Coe, advertising

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"The Unsuspected" is reviewed on page 7.

Key city gross reports are on page 6.

3 More Houses in Offing for Gamble

With the completion of construction in suburban Portland, Ore., soon of two new 1,500-seat theatres, and of another planned first-run in the Northwest, the circuit headed by Ted R. Gamble—which includes the eight-house Monarch group in the Midwest—will number 23 theatres. Gamble disclosed here yesterday that in addition to the three new projects, he has three new drive-ins under construction, and reported that in due course he will acquire and build more theatres, to be situated in the East.

Ultimately, when his expansion program is completed, Gamble said, the individual circuits within his orbit—such as Monarch—will lose their present identities and all the theatres, including drive-ins, will come under the banner of Gamble Enterprises, Inc.

4 Kentucky Theatres Sold by Caldwells

LOUISVILLE, Sept. 16.—Andy Anderson of Photoplay Theatres, Hartford, Ky., has purchased the complete circuit of Caldwell Theatres from Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Caldwell, and C. S. Caldwell, all of Cave City. Operation of the theatres has already been assumed. Included in the purchase are the Strand, Horse Cave; Lyric, Scottsville; Ace, Cave City, and the Hart, Munfordville.

Charters were applied for and have been granted to Park Theatres Corp. and American Theatres Corp., each with a $200,000 capital. Park incorporators were Andy and Arlie Anderson and W. Freeman Smith. American incorporators were Andy, Arlie and J. Beverly Anderson, Mary Anderson Burks and Rose Anderson Forney.

Capital Building Code Advantageous

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—District of Columbia Commissioners today passed a revised code for new buildings that includes numerous changes advantageous to new theatre owners.

The new code covers favorably such points as seating capacity, standee capacity, width of exits, exit lights, location of heating plants, etc. District Commissioners must still act on the proposed code for existing buildings.

Manta-Rose Meeting

CHICAGO, Sept. 16.—Some 50 Chicago home office executives and managers of Manta and Rose Theatres circuit have ended a two-day general business and exploitation meeting at the Congress Hotel. Prime purpose of the sessions was to discuss details of a 15th anniversary drive, which begins on Oct. 5 and continues through Jan. 3.

Radio Station to Schine

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 16. — The Schine Circuit, Gloversville, has purchased the controlling interest in a new Albany radio station, WPTR, which has studios in Schine's Ten Eyck Hotel here.

Personal Mention

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager; ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager; JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern and Canadian division manager; NORMAN AYERS, Southern division manager, and BERNARD R. GOODMAN, exchange supervisor, have returned to the home office from trips around the country.

●

HERMAN GOLDBERG, Warner purchasing agent and supervisor of maintenance for exchanges, is due here today by plane from Minneapolis, Omaha and Oklahoma City.

●

BOB WORDEN, assistant at Loew's Poli, Hartford, and PEARL MCKENZIE, Loew's Poli cashier, are honeymooning in Los Angeles.

●

M. L. STEVENS, formerly of RKO Radio, has joined Republic as salesman in New Orleans, replacing P. L. SPINDLER.

●

DICK OWENS, Eagle-Lion press representative, was a New Orleans visitor.

●

BILL THOMAS has rejoined Screen Guild Production as a salesman in New Orleans.

●

E. R. DORHAUER of Cassidy Enterprises, New Orleans, has returned there from South Bend, Ind.

●

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio vice-president, returned to New York from Hollywood yesterday by plane.

●

DICK KEATING, of Paramount's Atlanta booking department, is vacationing here.

●

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will leave here today for the Coast.

●

GEORGE H. WILKINSON, Wallingford, Conn., exhibitor and president-director of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Conn., has been elected a director of the First National Bank, Wallingford.

●

EDDIE HUBER, purchasing agent for the Fourth Ave. Amusement Co., Louisville, is substituting for HARRY NEWTON, now vacationing, as manager of the Strand there.

●

NORTON V. RITCHEY, Monogram International president, is now in Madrid, while STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, is in London.

●

C. J. FELDMAN, Universal-International Western division sales manager, has arrived in Detroit, from Chicago, on a tour of company exchanges.

●

R. L. BOSTICK, Memphis and Dallas manager for National Theatre Supply, has returned to Memphis from Los Angeles.

●

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, left here last night for Boston.

●

WALTER TITUS, Republic Southern district manager, was an Atlanta visitor from New York.

●

CHARLES BRACKETT, Paramount producer, is in New York from California.

●

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, JR., is in town from the Coast.

16mm. Leaders on AMPA Dais Friday

Leaders in the 16mm. field will be on the dais at the luncheon-meeting "salute" to the 16mm. industry to be given by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Town Hall Club here on Friday.

Among them are: William Kruse, president of Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association; Lloyd Lind, president, Pictorial Films; Maurice T. Groen, president, Films of the Nations; Tom Brandon, National Association of Visual Education Dealers; Tom Hodge, British Information Service film division; Tom Baird, BIS executive; Sam Goldstein, Commonwealth Pictures; William German, Brulatour, Inc.; Jacques Kopfstein, Astor Pictures; Harry Post, Post Pictures, and David A. Bader, chairman of the affair.

Murtagh Is Promoted

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Sept. 16.—Thomas P. Murtagh has been appointed assistant treasurer of the Ansco division of General Aniline and Film Corp., by E. Allan Williford, Ansco general manager. Murtagh, who has been executive secretary to Williford, joined Ansco in 1942 as an industrial engineer.

Kelly Delayed; U. A. Meeting Postponed

An adjourned meeting of the United Artists board of directors scheduled to be held here today has been postponed until Monday due to the inability of Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, to obtain plane transportation here from London until tomorrow. Kelly is due in New York on Friday.

The board will receive a report from Kelly on the British tax and market situation and on progress made in connection with play dates for some 18 UA releases now in England, as well as future product, which Kelly has discussed with J. Arthur Rank there.

The UA board also will continue discussions begun last week of new product supplies for the company and financing arrangements for its independent producers.

U-I Cleveland Meeting

CLEVELAND, Sept. 16.—Fred Meyers, Universal-International Eastern division sales manager, and A. J. O'Keefe, assistant general sales manager, have completed sales policy meetings here with district manager Peter Dana, branch manager Lester Zucker and and the local sales personnel.

Newsreel Parade

POPE PIUS praying for world peace, the S.S. Exodus refugees back in Germany, and the opening of the UN General Assembly highlight current newsreel releases. Assorted sports and human interest items round out the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 6—UN [illegible] festival marks opening of General Assembly. Secretary Marshall asks UN action on Greece. Floods add to India's chaos. Some 30,000 Catholics hail Pope. Venice revives old splendor. Kramer and Brough win tennis championship.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 204—British force *Exodus* refugees to Germany. Pope Pius calls for action against foes of Christianity. International dance festival highlights UN celebration. Orange juice bath for bathing beauties. Chicago chauffeur bequeathed $300,000. National tennis championship.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 7—Tennis: Kramer beats Parker. Pope Pius warns: "Time of test is here." *Exodus* refugees in Germany. UN faces its greatest challenge.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 74—Secretary Marshall calls for UN action on Greece. India's homeless millions. French protest lower bread rations. U. S. wheat received by Italians. Pope prays for world peace. Colorful folk dance performed in New York. French roller derby. Race in swirling rapids in Austria.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 9—Irish football team battles roughly for title. Prices rise as drought increases. *Exodus* Jews land in Germany. Churchill feeds lions in zoo. Kramer, Brough win U. S. singles.

Urge Self-Control At NAB Convention

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 16.—Broadcasters should think of the choice of self-regulation on the one hand, and imposed Government regulation on the other, and eventually, perhaps, Government broadcasting itself, Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, warned yesterday at NAB's 25th annual convention being held here.

Full advice from all sections of the broadcasting industry will be considered before NAB's board of directors acts on proposed "standards of practice" for the radio industry, it was announced. Miller gave this assurance and said there had been no domination by anyone in the preparation of the proposed "standards of practice." He declared that he proposed to clear the standards with the Government, including the Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission.

With regard to enforcement, Miller said that there is the possibility that a committee would consider complaints hold hearings, and render advisory opinions. He also mentioned review of scripts by an NAB group.

Three of the four networks—Columbia, National and Mutual—are on record as favoring adoption of a code The fourth, American Broadcasting likewise is on record as favoring a general code, but is seeking further study.

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THE FUTURE IS VERY M-G-M!

Read this report on Big M-G-M attractions which were previewed at M-G-M's recent Sales Conference in Los Angeles

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET" mightiest spectacular drama ever made! All advance reports dwarfed as we watched with our own eyes earthquake, tidal wave, shipwreck, tribal warfare in this gigantic, romantic picturization of the book that 20 million readers are waiting for, starring Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart. Truly it's Road-show calibre!

"GOOD NEWS" packed with *Technicolor* verve and joy, moves with lightning pace. Peter Lawford, rapidly reaching top box-office draw, is at his romantic best with June Allyson, plus brilliant young Broadway stage stars. Great tunes, excellent dancing, swell fun. Picture runs only an hour and a half which means perfect set-up for big Xmas and New Years turn-over business.

"CASS TIMBERLANE" unquestionably will be among the Ten Best of the Year! Spencer Tracy and Lana Turner are a marvelous combination in a big-time production of the best-seller that packs humor and humanity, luxury, love and laughter into a warmly appealing romance. It's got everything for the millions of movie-goers. A honey!

"KILLER McCOY" previewed at Loyola Theatre, Inglewood, California, before enthusiastic audience which approved new type of role for Mickey Rooney, the best that he has had since "Boys' Town." Mickey, in his new socko characterization, has terrific power, punch and vitality. This is a highly commercial attraction, with the important factor of an even greater screen career for Mickey Rooney.

"THIS TIME FOR KEEPS" an M-G-M musical in the "Anchors Aweigh" manner, big, luscious, *Technicolor* romance with magnificent backgrounds of Mackinac Island. "Bathing Beauty" sequences in spectacular aqua-show. First picture for Johnnie Johnston gives rich promise of appealing romantic singing stardom, teamed with Esther Williams in a suspenseful love story. Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, Xavier Cugat in big box-office cast.

"HIGH WALL" exciting, tense, romantic melodrama, which we predict will be a headline box-office attraction. Not since "Johnny Eager" has Robert Taylor had as powerfully rugged a role and Audrey Totter, continuing to build to stardom, is his excellent romantic partner. Fresh direction and fast-paced handling make this a really big, important box-office picture.

"THE PIRATE" teams Judy Garland and Gene Kelly in a rich *Technicolor* Cole Porter musical extravaganza with provocative love story. Picture fans will royally welcome Judy Garland in an adorable singing role. This picture has genuine novelty of treatment and content and produced on tremendous scale is not only eye-filling but has outstanding musical score and is loaded with comedy and action. A great all-around entertainment.

"ON AN ISLAND WITH YOU" has Peter Lawford, new idol of the fans, romantically teamed with Esther Williams plus Ricardo Montalban, Jimmy Durante, Cyd Charisse, Xavier Cugat in a dashing *Technicolor* picture. The love story has a delightfully different, racy, new twist and the South Sea backgrounds are a perfect setting for Esther Williams' beauty. A big, gorgeous musical for packed houses.

"THE KISSING BANDIT" teams Frank Sinatra and Kathryn Grayson in a big and gay *Technicolor* musical with an unusual and intriguing plot and plenty of love songs for the stars to sing. It has a swash-buckling theme of the inaccessible high born girl and the daring kissing bandit, with thrills and excitement galore. Rich, racy, romantic for sure-fire returns! A gala audience attraction.

☞ *P.S. Yes we saw them all and you'll see them soon with your own* 👁 👁

EVERY SNEA
AUDIENC
TH

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Lucille BALL • Franchot TONE

HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS

with

EDWARD EVERETT HORTON

MIKHAIL RASUMNY • GENE LOCKHART

An S. SYLVAN SIMON Production

Original screenplay by Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer

Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON • Produced by RAPHAEL HAKIM

PREVIEW FINDS IT FUNNIEST COMEDY IN YEARS!

COLUMBIA PICTURES

"HILARIOUS!"
—Film Daily

"AUDIENCE HAD WONDERFUL TIME!"
—M. P. Herald

"BOUND TO MAKE HIT WITH ALL AUDIENCES!"
—Exhibitor

"SHOULD CLICK MERRILY!"
—Hollywood Reporter

"A LAUGH A MINUTE!"
—Variety

"EVERYBODY HAS GRAND TIME!"
—M. P. Daily

"WILL BRING HOWLS!"
—Showmen's Tr. Rev.

"SURE OF HEARTY BOX OFFICE RESPONSE!"
—Daily Variety

"LOTS OF LAUGHS!"
—Boxoffice

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Grosses are pointing upward nearly all along the line, despite the continuance of hot weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 16-19.

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, on a moveover after two weeks at the Albee. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000)
DESERT FURY (Para.)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,000)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (Advanced price: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average, at regular prices of 50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c: $10,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $15,000)
RED STALLION (EL)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $12,000.(Average: $7,500)
SINGAPORE (U-I)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, on a moveover from the Shubert, following opening week at the Palace. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $2,700)

ATLANTA

Business is a little better this week. Weather is cooler. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 17:

BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME (U-I)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $8,200. (Average: $7,900)
BANJO (RKO Radio) and STRANGE VOYAGE (Mono)—CeAPITAL (2,446) (25c-37c). Gross: $5,600. (Average: $5,500)
DESERT FURY (Para.) — ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2-week move-over from the Fox. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $5,700)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $18,750. (Average: $19,000)
THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND ((2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $19,000)

BUFFALO

"Mother Wore Tights" was the leader here as September heat continued in the torrid pattern of August. Moveovers and holdovers predominated. "Red Stallion" and "Lost Honeymoon" bowed in strongly at the Lafayette. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 18-20:

BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,000)
CYNTHIA (M-G-M) and THE GREAT WALTZ (M-G-M reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500)
DEEP VALLEY (WB) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)
DESERT FURY (Para.) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox) — HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 2nd week as a moveover. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $10,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $17,000)
RED STALLION (E-L) and LOST HONEYMOON (E-L)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

Business registered some improvement despite weather that continued hot and sticky. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 18:

BRUTE FORCE (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,600. (Average: $11.600)
CRY WOLF (WB)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,100. (Average: $14,600)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $14.200)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7.400)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $9.200)
THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4.300. (Average: $4.800)
THE SEA HAWK (WB reissue) and THE SEA WOLF (WB reissue)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5.300. (Average: $6 300)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,400. (Average: $14,900)

PITTSBURGH

"Mother Wore Tights" broke away to a nice opening week at the J. P. Harris. "Life with Father" registered satisfactorily for a fourth week at the Warner and will be held over for a fifth. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 18:

ABIE'S IRISH ROSE (UA) and SUSIE STEPS OUT (UA)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $3.200. (Average: $3,200)
DESERT FURY (Para.) — RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from the Penn. Gross: $4.500. (Average: $3,200)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $19 000. (Average: $25.000)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNER (2.000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 4th week. Gross: $16.500. (Average: $8.000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2.000) (40c-55c-70c) Gross: $20 000. (Average: $11.000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.) — STANLEY (3.800) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12.000. (Average: $25.000)
WYOMING (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $8,400. (Average: $9.700)

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Expose 'Elmer's' Secret

Elmer, purportedly the pigeon that appears in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," laid an egg on the Maggi McNellis program over WJZ, New York, yesterday, proving it wasn't "Elmer." It refused to coo while on the air and when it did later it was with a Times Square not a West Coast accent.

None of that, however, prevented Lynn Farnol, Samuel Goldwyn Eastern advertising-publicity director, from getting in his plugs for the Danny Kaye picture during the broadcast.

SWG to Hold Mail Ballot on 'Royalty'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16.—Membership of the Screen Writers Guild will be asked to vote on a mail ballot on the guild's one per cent royalty plan which was adopted last week at a meeting attended by only 17 per cent of the members, the SWG executive board has decided.

The plan was adopted over the opposition of Emmet Lavery, president, and F. Hugh Herbert, secretary. The latter, who had tendered his resignation as a result of the vote, has withdrawn it in view of the board's decision.

The board also deferred action on the question of filing Communist disclaimer affidavits under the provisions of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Pick AGVA Delegates For National Meet

Membership meetings are being held this week throughout the country by locals of the American Guild of Variety Artists to select delegates to the AGVA's national convention, to be held in mid-October in Chicago.

New York Local No. 5, which is entitled to 18 delegates, will hold a nominating session tomorrow at Town Hall here. Nominations have already been made in Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, San Francisco and Buffalo. A total of 85 delegates will attend the convention, following their selection by mail vote.

According to Matt Shelvey, national director of AGVA, this convention will be the first since national American Federation of Labor headquarters took over direction of the union, and will result in the election of national AGVA officers and a 45-member board of directors.

Delay Reply to AFL Strike Parley Bid

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16.—Major producers continued to delay their response to AFL president William Green's invitation to a strike settlement conference to be held in San Francisco Oct. 4. The invitations were received yesterday.

It is understood, however, that the disposition is to attend if assurance is received that all international presidents concerned in the dispute will be present.

Walsh, '306' Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

union's negotiating committee that today's strike deadline be withdrawn, pending the results of Walsh's entering the dispute. It is said to be a foregone conclusion that the membership will accept the negotiating committee's recommendation.

Some 800 projectionists are involved in the union's demand for increased wages. Negotiations remain deadlocked despite numerous union-management meetings. Agreement already has been reached by the local with ITOA houses and with theatres of the Joelson, Studio, Randforce and Skouras circuits.

Votes on Discharges

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16.—Screen Publicists Guild members tonight voted to implement its board's motion to notify studios that all terminations of SPG employment motivated by economy or for purposes other than cause must respect seniority.

Rogers Would Swap UK Goods for Films

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16. — John W. Rogers, film producer, has offered to take British manufactured goods in exchange for any profits his pictures would make in England.

The suggestion was made in a letter to England's Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, who has asked U. S. producers for any proposals they might [illegible] other than the 75 per cent tax B[illegible]wa[illegible] has put on American films.

Bro-Rog Pictures Corp., owned by Rogers and Harry J. Brown, recently completed "The Spirit of West Point."

In addition to taking British goods, Brown said he would be willing to leave a percentage of his profits in England for a fund to be used to help stimulate interest in American and British sports. A similar percentage would be used in the same manner in America, he added.

KRS Takes Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the last screening of the film in question. But, because of staff shortages in distribution offices, delay occurred in wartime, and has persisted to the present.

Several distributors now take as long as 14 days to bill exhibitor clients, and exhibitors, naturally, take as long in meeting their bills, thus enjoying, in most cases, at least, four weeks' credit, and in some cases, six.

Distributors have estimated that about $20,000,000 is always held back by exhibitors when it should be in distributors' coffers. With fear of a possible recession at the box-office, or possibly unnerved by the Dalton tax, distributors believe that this delay should be rectified.

Bell in Ad Post

(*Continued from page* 1)

agency here which handles several motion picture and theatre accounts.

Bell is known in the aviation, motion picture and public relations fields. Prior to his association with the airline he was director of advertising-publicity of Loew's Theatres in Washington and later was associated here with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer as Eastern publicity manager. While in motion pictures he won the annual showmanship award from Quigley Publications' *Motion Picture Herald* for the most consistent publicity and exploitation effort during the year, in competition with theatre managers and publicists in the U. S.

Bell has been admitted to practice before the bars of Georgia and the District of Columbia and is also a former newspaperman, having served on the staffs of the *Atlanta Georgian-American* and *Detroit Times.*

Study Films for Swiss

Robert Pirk, Swiss film journalist, has arrived here to study the motion picture industry, on commission of some 10 newspapers and periodicals in Basle, Zurich and Berne. He will remain in this country for six months

RKO Signs Hartman

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 16.—RKO Radi has signed Don Hartman to a two year producer-director contract. Hartman recently resigned from Columbia

Chilean Industry In Poor Condition

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Recent film productions in Chile have added little to that country's stature as a motion picture producer, according to a Commerce Department report released here today.

The report, prepared by the Department's motion picture consultant, Na[illegible] D. Golden, says that nine Chilean p[illegible]res were released in 1946, and three during the first quarter of 1947.

The most important development in the Chilean film picture during the first quarter of 1947, the survey states, was the admission by Government officials that Chile Films, only large studio in the country and in part owned and controlled by the Fomento Corp., was in such financial difficulties that it appeared advisable to contemplate declaring it bankrupt. Golden declares that the government is obviously reluctant to let this venture terminate.

The report finds 312 motion picture theatres in Chile on Jan. 1, 1947, compared with 263 theatres in 1940.

McNutt Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

by the MPA, McNutt, following his appointment, declared: "We welcome the investigation and will cooperate with the committee. I know first-hand of the industry's Americanism. It is beyond dispute. We have nothing to fear, nothing to hide. Our record is an open book. We are fully prepared to meet any charge that American films have propagandized for Communism or any other 'ism,' or for the overthrow of the American form of life.

"The proof is in the pictures themselves. The producers are responsible for the content of these pictures. No one else is responsible. The producers accept that responsibility.

"The industry does not attempt to defend, shield or white-wash Communistic activities of any person, and welcomes the exposure of Communists wherever they are to be found in America."

McNutt has had a long record of public service. He is a former national commander of the American Legion, a former governor of Indiana, and was chairman of the War Manpower Commission during the war.

D. L. Roberts Dead

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 16.—D. L. Roberts, operator of the Dorix Theatre, Elkhart, died here Sept. 6 after a brief illness, it was learned here along Film Row. The widow, who assisted in operating the theatre, survives.

Mrs. Leah Mehlman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Services were held for Mrs. Leah Mehlman, mother of Dennis Carlin, Republic's advertising manager. Mrs. Mehlman died last Friday.

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Bookkeeper with Motion Picture Experience
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Review

"The Unsuspected"

(*Warner Brothers*)

AS a diabolical genius, Claude Rains plans his murders with all the studied calculation of a logician formulating a new system of logic. The film is an uneven affair that ranges from superb melodrama to familiar corn. The greatest asset is a company of reliable names which, besides Rains, includes Joan Caulfield, Audrey Totter, Constance Bennett, Hurd Hatfield and Michael North.

The Ranald MacDougall screenplay opens with Rains, a radio broadcaster of murder mysteries, apparently suffering from a double bereavement: not only has his secretary seemingly committed suicide, but his ward, beautiful Miss Caulfield, is reported drowned at sea. As events push forward, complications heighten. News comes that Miss Caulfield has been rescued, but meanwhile North had stepped forward claiming to be her husband. Around this confusion, Rains takes on increasingly demoniacal outlines, until it becomes clear that he had murdered his secretary to cover thefts from his ward. He subsequently is forced to kill his ward's step-sister and engineer the death of her husband. When all the varied strands of the plot are woven into the final fabric, Rains is trapped, his crimes being uncovered by North who turns out to be a detective.

The picture turns up a lot of suspense but is made more enjoyable by some excellent characterizations. Rains usually dominates the scenes, with Miss Caulfield performing with pleasant competence. As the ambitious step-sister, Miss Totter is amusingly acerb, while Miss Bennett, a radio producer, contributes a crisp and enjoyable performance. The mystery is rounded out by a romance between Miss Caulfield and North. A Michael Curtiz production, which Charles Hoffman produced and Curtiz directed. Adaptation was by Bess Meredyth, from a story by Charlotte Armstrong.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Oct. 11.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

Leadership Stressed By Commonwealth

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 16.—Leadership is the keynote of Commonwealth Theatres fall meeting at the President Hotel here, conducted by C. A. Schultz, president, and O. K. Mason, vice-president. Theatre management has been urged to exercise leadership as to personnel, cultivating the ability of employes; to demonstrate leadership in entertainment and to manifest leadership in the communities.

It was announced that Monroe Glenn of Glenn Realty Co., owners of the Fulton Theatre, Fulton, Mo., has made an operating arrangement with Commonwealth which will operate the Fulton beginning Jan. 1 next.

District meetings were held this afternoon under district managers M. B. Smith, Floyd Morris, Bob Marchbank and Eddie Mansfield.

OHE Approves 10 Projects, Denies 39

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—The Office of the Housing Expediter has approved 10 more theatre projects and denied 39. Value of the approved projects was $455,525, and value of the denials was $1,807,405.

Two large theatre construction projects by the Phelps-Dodge Corp. in Arizona, accounted for the bulk of the dollar value of the approved projects. OHE approved a $260,000 theatre at Plaza, Arizona, and a $100,000 theatre at Morenci.

NYC Film Planning

(*Continued from page* 1)

will not participate in the Thursday and Friday meetings.

Following this week's conferences, Maguire reported yesterday, about two weeks will be devoted by him and city attorneys to technical and legal points bearing on the city's program to expedite production operations here. At the end of the two weeks, he added, the city will issue a formal report on film production, wherein Maguire's recommendations will be listed.

Mills Will Address

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ascap theatre music license rate increase, for presentation to the convention at large.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Robert Coyne, ATA executive director, who reported also that Paul Raibourn, head of Paramount Television, will address the convention's television committee, and Charles Schlaifer, head of the new public relations program of the Motion Picture Association, will address the convention's public relations group.

Committee chairmen will be named on Thursday in Washington, Coyne said. Other convention committees will be on legislative, film program, organization, budget and finance, campaigns and charities, distributor-exhibitor relations, audience expansion, the New York anti-trust suit and advanced admissions.

Lehr to Speak at Meet

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16.—Lew Lehr, 20th Century-Fox Movietone News narrator, will address the ATA-MPTOA meeting here at the weekend.

Denver Houses Using New Colo. Newsreel

DENVER, Sept. 16. — Eight Denver theatres are using a new newsreel, featuring Denver and Colorado events. With shooting schedules set two weeks in advance, no attempt will be made at present to cover spot news.

Heading the enterprise are Harry Huffman, city manager for Fox Intermountain Theatres, and Gordon Gross and Harlan Mendelhall, cameraman. Showing the films are the Aladdin, Tabor, Paramount, Denver, Esquire, Webber, Rialto and Telenews.

SMPE Meets Tonight

The Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will meet here tonight at the Hotel Pennsylvania with J. D. Cochrane, chief engineer of the electronics department of Blue Seal Cine Devices, Inc., the principal speaker.

E-L Sales Managers

L. E. Goldhammer

Al Suchman

(*Continued from page* 1)

land, Seattle, San Francisco, Denver, Kansas City and Salt Lake City.

Goldhammer, who entered the film business in 1916, joined Eagle-Lion in 1946 as West Coast district manager. He was with RKO Radio for 14 years, beginning in 1930 when he was named manager of the Minneapolis exchange. He later was promoted to Prairie States district manager and then Chicago district manager. Prior to RKO he managed Universal's St. Louis exchange and was with Warner Brothers for more than 10 years in the Midwest.

Suchman, who for the past 18 months has been with Samuel Goldwyn Productions as special sales representative for the East, South and Canada, has resigned that post to join Eagle-Lion. In the industry for 30 years, Suchman's initial sales post was with Universal and has since been with major distribution companies. His exhibition affiliations have been with Consolidated Amusement Enterprises as general manager and buyer, and with the Schine Circuit as zone manager and in other executive positions.

Film Classics

(*Continued from page* 1)

and more direct aid to exhibitors.

Branch heads who will be at the convention are: Ralph Peckham, Atlanta; Maurice Green, Boston; Joseph Miller, Buffalo; Edward Spiers, Chicago; J. H. Lutzer, Dallas; George Lofko, Indianapolis; Leslie Durland, Kansas City; Robert P. Ableson, Los Angeles; Max Mazur, Milwaukee; George Waldman and Sydney Weiner, New York; Morton Magill, Phliadelphia; Jask Kloepper, Portland; Fred Ableson, San Francisco; Ralph de Burgos, Washington.

Thedford in New Post

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 16.—William H. Thedford is the new district manager of Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres.

For Studio—
Architecturally magnificent modern fireproof former First National Bank Building at Mamaroneck Ave. & Boston Post Road, in Mamaroneck. 3-story and full terrazzo floor basement; high ceiling mezzanine banking floor; third floor all offices. 2 elevators. L. N. Rosenbaum & Son, 565 Fifth Ave., N. Y.

No other company has ever been able to say this about any picture in the entire history of the industry:

A month before its release Forever Amber has been dated by more than 1,000 of America's top theatres!

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Black Market In Films Sent To U.S. Army

War Department Warns All Overseas Theatres

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—Large percentages of U. S. distributors' motion pictures sent by the Army to its overseas commands are finding their way into black market channels.

This is disclosed in an Army directive to all overseas theatres. The order points out that entertainment films distributed to overseas commands by the Army Motion Picture Service are provided under leasing arrangements with commercial film distributing companies. It further states that "information developed by the Army Motion Picture Service reveals that an average of five per cent of the feature programs and 30 per cent of the short subjects are not being returned in accordance with contract requirements."

The directive further declares that the "loss or misappropriation" of these films is of serious consequence to both the War Department and copyright owners "because of the value of these prints on the commer-

(*Continued on page* 4)

South Side Files $3,000,000 Suit

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 17.—South Side Theatres Corp. today filed a $3,000,000 treble damage suit in Federal Court against Fox West Coast, Fox West Coast Agency Corp., United West Coast Theatres and all major distributing companies. Charging conspiracy and asking that FWC

(*Continued on page* 2)

$10 Counterfeits Plaguing Chicago

Chicago, Sept. 17.—Counterfeit $10 bills are plaguing cashiers in local theatres with orders out to refrain from making change if there is any doubt concerning genuineness of such a bill. Two more were passed recently at houses in the Hyde Park district, the Ken and the Victory being victimized.

'306' Votes to Delay N.Y. Strike Action

Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, entered negotiations yesterday between projectionists' Local No. 306 and representatives of the RKO, Loew, Warner, Paramount and Universal circuits, after the projectionists at a mass meeting here agreed to postpone a scheduled strike. Walsh participated in a meeting of both sides which lasted all afternoon.

Members of the local's negotiating committee sought, and won, a delay of any strike action, pending the outcome of renewed negotiations. The decision suspended a strike meeting subject to recall.

Among the matters involved in the negotiations is the local's status under the Taft-Hartley act. It is understood that the local contends that it is not engaged in inter-state commerce, and therefore, is not subject to the Taft-Hartley law.

However, the chief hitch in the negotiations has been wages. Wage agreements already have been reached with ITOA houses and with theatres of the Joelson, Studio, Randforce and Skouras circuits.

Ask 'IA' Sanction of Strike at Universal

A request for sanction of strike action by 250 home office employes of Universal and by 40 employes of Pathe Laboratories has been sent by Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, to Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE.

The request was voted last night at a membership meeting here of more than 900 members of the local. Union members complained of the long delay in reaching an agreement in nego-

(*Continued on page* 4)

ABC to Telecast Within 12 Months

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 17.—Assuming a reasonably prompt delivery of engineering equipment, American Broadcasting Co. will be on the air with television within 12 months, Mark Woods, the web's president, declared here.

He said that ABC had taken an option on a television transmitter location in San Francisco in addition to locations already selected in Los Angeles, Chicago and Detroit, in addition to a New York site soon to be selected.

Myers, Kirsch Sent New Convention Bids

Washington, Sept. 17.—A new invitation to attend the ATA - MPTOA joint convention sessions here which will be concerned with subjects of interest to all exhibitors has been sent to Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, and Jack Kirsch, president, it was learned here today. The two had declined earlier invitations.

No reply to the new bid had been received up to today, as far as could be learned.

Continue 'Best Years' Road Shows in 1948

Resistance to the showing of "The Best Years of Our Lives" at advanced prices came originally from some exhibitors and not from the public, Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president of RKO Radio, declared here yesterday in announcing that the road showing of "Best Years" will continue indefinitely in 1948.

"The public has prevailed, despite resistance from some exhibitors," Depinet said. "Here we have a very pointed demonstration that when you have a really great picture, the public will support you at the prices which have been charged for 'Best Years.' "

Depinet, whose views were similar to those expressed by James Mulvey,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Opposition Delays Vote on NAB Code

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 17.—Wtih every indication that the proposed Standards of Practice will not be adopted at this convention the National Association of Broadcasters membership conference on the proposed code will be continued here tomorrow morning at a session continued from one which adjourned early yesterday evening when it became known that a long debate was in store.

Small station broadcasters are expected to continue their fight against sections which limit to three minutes commercial announcements in any 15-minute segment of broadcast time.

Although a majority of the networks has approved the code the smaller and independent broadcasters

(*Continued on page* 4)

Merger in But ATA-MPTOA Face Tussles

Trade Practices Appear Set; New Name Is Not

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17.—While approval of the merger of American Theatres Association with Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at the joint convention of the two organizations opening Friday at the Shoreham Hotel here appears to be a foregone conclusion, early arriving delegates today expressed some concern over the almost certain conflict on the convention floor on such disputed issues as naming of the new organization and authorizing it to engage in trade practices.

Exact strength of the opposition to the proposed new name of the merged organization, Theatre Owners of America, is unknown and may prove

(*Continued on page* 4)

Cleveland Houses Accept 20th's Plan

CLEVELAND, Sept. 17.—Several de luxe subsequent houses here have accepted 20th Century-Fox's reduced 21-day clearance plan, with other negotiations nearing completion, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager, disclosed here today.

The houses will get pictures simultaneously with RKO's 105th Street theatre and Lowe's Park and Granada. De luxe subsequent houses have had an availability at 35 days.

Smith personally visited the theatres affected and said that the subsequents, on the basis of their physical superiority, should not be bound to an antiquated availability policy. He added that the plan will be extended to other exchange centers.

Players Skip Pay Raises, Says Yates

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 17.—First official indication that talent is displaying a disposition to accept pay reductions in consequence of the British film tax came today from Republic president Herbert Yates who disclosed here that secondary players are being told

(*Continued on page* 4)

Personal Mention

WILLIAM GOETZ, Universal International production head, will fly to New York from Hollywood Sunday.

•

Jock Lawrence, public relations chief for the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, and Mrs. Lawrence, Earl St. John, chief production adviser for the Rank organization, and Mrs. St. John; and Fay Holden, screen actress, are among passengers who sailed for England yesterday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth.*

•

Howard J. London, director of radio and motion pictures for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, will leave here Saturday for Hollywood on the 1948 March of Dimes drive. He will stay at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

•

Bernard G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of U-I, left here yesterday to visit the Warner zones in Albany and Pittsburgh.

•

Herman Gluckman, Nu-Screen president, and Stanley Hand, general sales manager, will leave here today to attend the ATA-MPTOA meeting in Washington.

•

J. S. Croeze, general manager of Columbia Film Booking Office, Holland, is making his headquarters with Henry R. Arias during his stay in New York.

•

James Gillespie, 20th Century-Fox exploitation manager, visited New Orleans last week from New York.

•

Meyer Schine of the Schine Circuit, Mrs. Schine and their son Richard are in Albany, from Gloversville.

Named Bankers Trust V-P

Daniel C. Hickson, until recently vice-president and general manager of Hunt Stromberg Productions, has been elected a vice-president of Bankers Trust Co., S. Sloan Colt, president, announced. Prior to his association with Stromberg, Hickson was with Western Electric, and served as president of General Service Studios.

'House' Prices Cut

Admission prices for the world premiere of "My Father's House," at the Ambassador Theatre here on Sept. 25 have been cut to $5 and $2.50, instead of $10 and $5 as previously announced. The premiere will be for the benefit of the Jewish National Fund.

N.Y. Golden Cuts Prices

The Golden Theatre here has reduced its top price from $1.20 to 98 cents for showings of "The Great Dawn," which stars Pierino Gamba, the 10-year-old musical conductor of symphony orchestras. The picture has been held for a fourth week.

Ruffin Amusement Co. In Its 20th Year

Covington, Tenn., Sept. 17.—Ruffin Amusement Co., headed by W. F. Ruffin of this city, is observing its 20th anniversary in theatre operation here this year. Ruffin is a national director of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America as the representative of the Tri-States MPTO.

The company operates the Ruffin and Ritz here, and has theatres at Halls, Newbern, Martin and Greenfield, in Tennessee, and at Hickman and Benton, in Kentucky. Ruffin is president of the company; Mrs. Ruffin is secretary-treasurer, and W. F. Ruffin, Jr., is a vice-president.

National Foundation Cites W. K. Jenkins

Atlanta, Sept. 17.—William K. Jenkins, president of Georgia Theatre Co., has been presented a Certificate of Distinguished Achievement by officers of the Georgia Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in recognition of his two years service as chairman of the chapter, from 1945 through May, 1947.

The presentation was made by Robert F. Maddox, Sr., a past chairman of the chapter and former Mayor of Atlanta.

41,823 Shipments in 'Paramount Week'

Paramount film shipments for "Paramount Week," the initial week of the company's 1947 sales drive, established a new high for the firm on a total of 41,823, it is reported by Charles M. Reagan, distribution vice-president. The figure compares with the former record of 40,326, set last year.

The Dallas branch took top honors with a record of 2,994 for the week, New York was second with 2,422, while third went to Boston with 2,027.

M.P. Daily Gets Fraud Evidence on 'Elmer'

This publication yesterday exposed a pigeon posing as the Elmer of "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" as a fraud when it laid an egg on the Maggi McNellis WJZ broadcast Tuesday. Motion Picture Daily now is in possession of the evidence. It has the egg, in a Hollywood nest of nylon thread, with the spurious "Elmer" nesting thereon.

Only comment from the Samuel Goldwyn office here was: "If Lassie can't have puppies, why isn't it all right for 'Elmer' to lay an egg?"

Roto Editor Handel To United Artists

Charles Handel, roto editor of Acme Newspictures, has been named to the publicity staff of United Artists as feature writer and photo editor, by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., director of advertising-publicity.

Handel was with Acme for 14 years as writer, associate editor and then roto editor. In his new spot at United Artists, Handel will continue to service many of the editors with whom he dealt as Acme roto head.

Dual Appearance For Chaplin in D.C.

Washington, Sept. 17.—Charles Chaplin may be making two appearances here next week at the same time, one on the screen in "Monsieur Verdoux," the other in person before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, which opens hearings here on Communist penetration of Hollywood on Sept. 24. Committee chairman J. Parnell Thomas has stated that Chaplin will be one of those subpoenaed to testify.

Meanwhile the booking of Chaplin's "Monsieur Verdoux" here at Loew's Capitol for Sept. 25, has been cancelled by Loew district manager Carter Barron, "to avoid the appearance of linking the opening of the picture at the Capitol with the possible appearance of Chaplin before the House Committee." Following the cancellation, however, arrangements were made by United Artists to open the film simultaneously at five Washington houses on Sept. 26. The houses are the Pix, and four houses of the K-B Amusement Co., the Apex, Naylor, Senator and Atlas. They are booked for an indefinite run.

Frank Bouchard, general manager of B-K, booked the film immediately after the postponement by the Capitol.

When the Capitol originally booked the film, Chaplin said: "It is no ironical coincidence that my comedy also opens in the Nation's Capitol at the time of the House Un-American Activities Committee hearing."

Course on Law of Literary Property

A course on the law of literary property and copyright will be conducted this fall by the Practising Law Institute in cooperation with the Committee on Copyright of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. The lectures will be given on 12 successive Thursdays, starting Oct. 6 at the building of the Association, here.

Among problems to be analyzed are the acquisition and clearance of copyrighted motion pictures, and the protection and remedies in fraudulent practices against their unauthorized exhibition. Included in the lecturer's panel are James S. Polk of the legal department of Paramount and Edward A. Sargoy of Sargoy and Stein.

Flays Censorship

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—A concerted effort by leading clubwomen to block any censorship of motion pictures, is the motivating purpose of a group which maintains that censorship of films only "destroyed the good work that has been done by the motion picture committees up to the present." It was led in an open forum by Margaret Girdner, director of visual education for public schools here.

Rourke, Creamer Unite

Jack Rourke Productions and Jack Creamer, personnel manager, have formed a business association to promote each other's properties.

SOPEG To Resume Wage Talks Today

A second negotiating session with company representatives will be held here today by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, which seeks a 30 per cent wage increase for 2,500 home office employes.

At last week's meeting, both sides reviewed cost-of-living figures, company profits and SOPEG's contention that the companies are in an excellent position to grant the union's wage [illegible] quest.

SOPEG will hold an all-day meeting on Saturday at the Park Central Hotel here to discuss the wage negotiations and the layoff situation.

Council Backs Ban On Communists

The Council of Actors Equity, here, governing group of that organization, has ratified a resolution requiring all council members, officers or representatives to sign oaths that they are neither Communists nor Fascists. The resolution, which was adopted by the organization last week against strong opposition, will be put into effect "as quickly as possible," according to Clarence Derwent, president.

South Side Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

be ordered to continue operation of the Alto Theatre, Inglewood, today's suit is South Side's answer and counter-claim to a suit filed by FWC a year ago to compel South Side to take back the Alto, which FWC had operated under a lease.

McClendons Initiate Dallas Trust Suit

Dallas, Sept. 17.—Charging unlawful conspiracy to control first and subsequent-runs in Dallas and suburbs, the McClendon interests, operators of the Casa Linda Theatre, have filed an anti-trust action here against eight distributors and the Robb and Rowley and Interstate circuits.

The plaintiffs seek $1,200,000 damages. The action was filed by Jefferson, B. R., Gordon, Jeanette and Maggie McClendon. Thomas McConnell, Chicago attorney, together with the local law firm of Clark, Coon, Holt & Fisher, is representing the McClendons.

SRO Names Doyle to Oregon Sales Post

Larry Doyle, former booking and office manager of the Selznick Releasing Organization office in San Francisco, has been promoted to handle all sales for SRO in the Oregon territory, by Milton S. Kusell, vice-president in charge of domestic and Canadian sales.

Doyle will make his headquarters in Portland.

Lockwood to MOT

British producer-director Roy Lockwood is joining March of Time in New York as assistant producer, according to Richard de Rochemont, producer.

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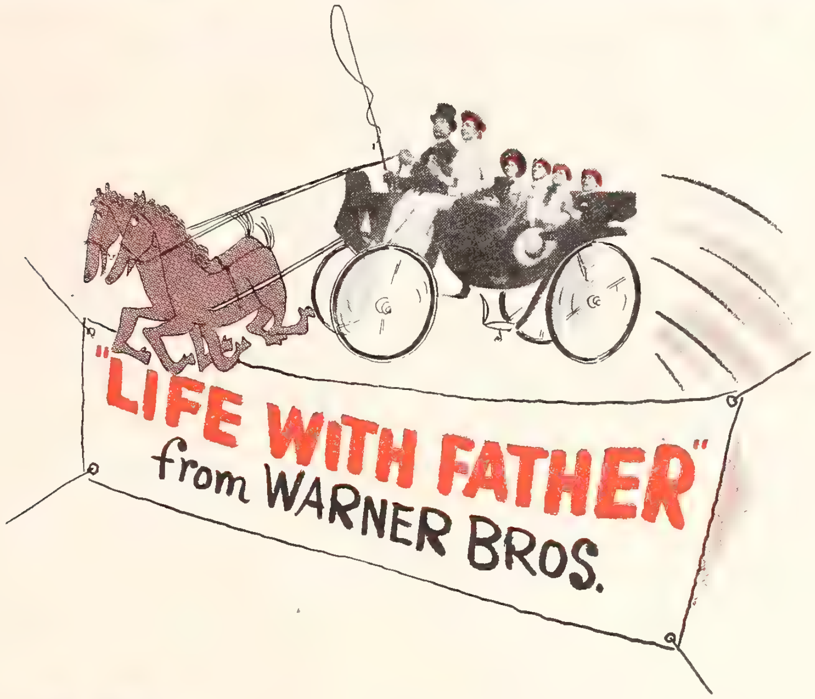

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Players Skip Raises

(*Continued from page* 1)

at option time that they may remain under Republic contract if they forego their term increase.

Players whose options have come up for renewal thus far have "agreed without exception" to waive the increase, he reported. No top stars have accepted cuts so far, Yates added, but some ranking personalities seeking one-picture deals have scaled down their asking prices when their first bids have not been snapped up.

Yates further declared that Republic intends to maintain its announced production schedule, but is combing scripts in an attempt to scale down costs without reducing quality.

Asserting that no one in the industry can predict conditions which will prevail six months from now, Yates declared that this and other considerations, including both the original extra cost and the long wait between finished negatives and prints, will influence many producers to cancel color commitments.

Universal Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

tiations, and urged definite action.

The union began negotiations for Universal's home office employes in May, seeking a 14 per cent increase under a wage-reopening clause of a contract which does not expire until July 1, 1948. It had been expected that the Universal wage talks would be influenced by the local's signing of an agreement on increases for 750 Warner employes here, but the WB accord was reached before passage of the Taft-Hartley act. Following passage of the act, negotiations with Universal faltered to a halt.

H-63 recently unionized the offices of Pathe laboratories here and in Bound Brook, N. J., but contract negotiations have dragged on for three months. Here, too, it is the feeling of union officials that the Taft-Hartley act was influential in snagging contract talks.

Black Market

(*Continued from page* 1)

cial market." It points out that misappropriation of the films is punishable as a military offense under articles of war and liable to prosecution under the U. S. Copyright Laws.

"It is essential," the directive states, "to continued service and to the satisfactory renegotiation of expiring contracts that a most rigid control be exercised in the circulation of entertainment motion picture programs and that proper and effective action be taken when a diversion of prints occurs. All personnel concerned with the distribution and exhibition of entertainment motion picture programs will be fully informed of the absolute necessity for strict accountability, adequate safeguarding, and proper return of all film prints furnished by the Army Motion Picture Service" it was said.

Support Cleveland Tax

CLEVELAND, Sept. 17.—Although the city council here has postponed until Sept. 22, action on a proposed three per cent municipal amusement tax, the residential suburb of Shaker Heights has already voted for the measure to become effective on Oct. 1, when the state tax is removed.

ATA-MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

to be either a convention surprise or merely a sentimental gesture on the part of a few members of MPTOA's old guard who want to see the 27-year-old name of their organization continued.

Morris Loewenstein, MPTOA director and president of the MPTO of Oklahoma, appears to be the leader of the Name-It-MPTOA group. His organization is on record, and Loewenstein has been instructed to vote for retention of the MPTOA name. He recently circularized all MPTOA directors uring them to join in the move to retain the name.

The MPTO of West Virginia also has voted in favor of retaining the MPTOA name and has instructed its president, J. C. Shanklin, to vote accordingly.

2 Groups Back MPTOA Name

These are the only two organizations known to be on record in favor of retaining the MPTOA name. However, there is scattered individual support for it which assures it additional votes and which, if it succeeds in winning cohorts at the convention, might furnish an upset.

Among individuals known to favor continuance of the MPTOA name, although without the formal instructions of their local organizations, are Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, and president of the MPTO of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois; Richard Biechele, president of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association; Merrit Kyser, president of the MPTO of Buffalo and Western New York, and others.

There is no known agitation among ATA delegates for giving the new organization the ATA name. A majority of delegates of both organizations approved the name of Theatre Owners of America for the merged organization at their initial meeting in New York last July.

Question of Trade Actions

There is, however, considerable ATA sentiment in favor of excluding trade practices from the new organization's field of activities as was done, but not without exception, by the ATA. The MPTO delegates, however, are unanimous in their stand for the inclusion of trade practices. They will have support from numerous ATA segments which either were cool to the exclusion of trade practices all along or have since been convinced by ATA's forced exceptions to the rule that "it just won't work—exhibitor organizations just can't escape trade practice concerns."

That would appear to provide a clear majority in favor of trade practices for the new organization. One report, unconfirmed as of now, has it that the proposed by-laws to be submitted to the convention actually provide for trade practice activities by the TOA.

W. Averill Harriman to Speak At ATA-MPTOA Convention

Secretary of Commerce W. Averill Harriman will be a speaker at the ATA-MPTOA convention at the Shoreham Hotel, Washington, tomorrow and Saturday, it was announced here yesterday.

Other convention speakers include Attorney General Tom Clark, Spyros Skouras, Edwin Arnold and, possibly, General Eisenhower and Housing Director John R. Steelman. The latter two have been invited but have not yet responded.

Brandt, Cohen to 'Observe'

Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of America, New York, and Max A. Cohen, vice-president, will attend the ATA-MPTOA convention in Washington as observers.

FCC Head Suggests Video Network Plan

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 17.—A network which would enable the broadcaster to enter the field of television simply by installing a transmitter and an antenna was proposed here today as Charles R. Denny, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, addressed the 25th annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters.

"Suppose instead of building studios and buying cameras and a film pickup for the origination of programs of your own, you could, initially at least, rely upon a network for program service?" Denny said.

"In those areas which today are not traversed by coaxial cables and where no network television service is available, suppose one station in a large community could do the programming and distribute it to transmitters that you would build in smaller adjacent communities and link to the key transmitter by radio relay? Several stations in different communities might share a common central studio or mobile pickup units and move them from place to place for the origination of programs," he continued.

"Thus, little clusters of television stations might be spawned in various parts of the country, then as the coaxials and microwave relays reach across the nation these little networks might be joined together and a nationwide television service would emerge. In this way television might be nursed through the tender period of its infancy," he observed.

'Best Years'

(*Continued from page* 1)

president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, said that "Best Years" "has been built up by word of mouth not only with the public, but with exhibitors as well. In the trade, word of the picture's performance has done more to break down industry prejudices and hidebound conventions than anything in my memory. More contracts have been written for 'Best Years' in the last 60 days than in the six months that preceded it."

For purposes of comparison, Depinet cited the record of "The Kid From Brooklyn," also a Goldwyn production, and said that 90 per cent as many people had seen "Best Years" as had seen "Kid from Brooklyn," which played at regular admission prices.

Flynn in New NBC Post

Stephen Flynn has been named to National Broadcasting's cooperative programs division by Burton M. Adams, division manager.

NAB Code Delay

(*Continued from page* 1)

say that the proposed regulations would put them at a competitive disadvantage with network affiliates.

The NAB president has already told a news conference that the board of directors, which has final say on the code, will probably not act this Friday despite what may happen in the meanwhile. He has pointed out that many points must be cleared with the Government.

Charles R. Denny, Federal C[illegible]nications Commission chairman, during his talk at the convention luncheon today, said that the commission was not going to tell the broadcasters what kind of a code to adopt. "Personally, I believe that some corrective action is needed in your industry and a good sound code would be a forward step," he declared.

"Under the law the commission has a responsibility to make an overall review of your operations when you apply for a renewal of your license," he said.

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Myers to Take Allied Ascap Plan to TOA

Accept Wehrenberg's Bid To Merger Convention

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, today accepted the new invitation extended to him this week to attend, specifically, the joint ATA-MPTOA convention session tomorrow afternoon on the subject of exhibitor opposition to the theatre music license fee increases proposed by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Previously, Myers and Jack Kirsch, Allied president, had declined invitations to attend the convention.

The Allied acceptance indicates the possibility of a united exhibitor front against the Ascap rate increase on a scale not attained by American exhibitors in more than 10 years past.

Myers plans to "disclose fully to

(*Continued on page 7*)

NAB Urges Radio Code

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 18.—Before ending its 25th annual convention here this afternoon the general membership of the National Association of Broadcasters adopted a resolution urging its board of directors to adopt at an early date a code of self regulation for radio.

The resolution proposed further study of the "Standards of Practice" submitted to the convention on Monday and objected to, in part, by several operators of smaller stations.

NAB's board of directors will consider the new code tomorrow. Although it has full power to adopt or reject the instrument, opinion here is that no action will be forthcoming until some parts have been revised and sections have been approved by the Federal Communications Commission.

As the delegates resumed discussion of the code this afternoon, there were indications that the revolt of some independent station broadcasters, which seemed imminent yesterday, was petering out.

Ted Cott, program director of WNEW, New York, took the floor again this morning and reported that not one of the large group of inde-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Everybody to Have A Job at the ATA-MPTOA Convention

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Virtually all of the several hundred delegates who will be on hand here tomorrow morning for the two-day merger-convention of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will find special assignments awaiting them. The assignments, of course, will be in addition to the individual's regular functions as floor delegates.

The principal of "a job for everybody"—as ATA executive director Robert Coyne puts it—is regarded as having a dual advantage. Not only will the voluminous work of the convention be thinly spread and thus facilitate time-saving, but the groundwork for a democratically-operated

(*Continued on page 7*)

Skouras Appointed Film Unit Chairman

Spyros Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, has been appointed by Mayor William O'Dwyer chairman of of the motion picture committee for New York's "Week of Rededication," to be held in conjunction with the arrival of the American Heritage Foundation's Freedom Train here. The week will begin next Tuesday and will run through Sept. 30.

Freedom Train will arrive in Grand

(*Continued on page 3*)

Wehrenberg to Urge Unity, Trade Practice

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18. — A strong plea for exhibitor unity and a championing of the need for exhibitor organizations to engage in trade practices will highlight the address of Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, to an audience which it is predicted will exceed 500 persons at the opening session of the joint MPTOA-American Theatres Association convention at the Shoreham Hotel here tomorrow morning.

Wehrenberg will point out that tax groups, music licensing societies, legislators and many others do not stop

(*Continued on page 7*)

Local 306 in Clash With IATSE Heads

Entry of Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, into the stormy negotiations between projectionists' Local No. 306 and representatives of the RKO, Loew, Warner, Paramount and Universal circuits, has been accompanied by friction between Walsh and officials of 306.

While another negotiation meeting has been set for next Thursday here, it is understood that the friction between

(*Continued on page 7*)

Gamble Heads TOA Officers' Advance Slate

Wehrenberg, Fabian In; Trade Practices Set

By SHERWIN KANE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Ted R. Gamble heads the slate of officers for the new Theatre Owners of America to be formed at the joint convention of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at the Shoreham Hotel here tomorrow.

Directors of the two organizations met separately tonight and appeared to be in definite agreement on the following slate:

Gamble, president; Fred Wehrenberg, chairman of the board; Si Fabian, chairman of the executive committee; Morris Loewenstein, secretary, and Herman Levy, general counsel.

Robert W. Coyne will serve as executive director of the new organiza-

(*Continued on page 7*)

New High for MPA Library

Upon conclusion this month of what is described as a successful experimental year in the operation of the Motion Picture Association's "Children's Film Library," the library's sights will be raised to add another 1,000 theatres next year to the 1,500 already participating in the program, Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, announced yesterday.

The screen tastes of some 15,000,000 children between the ages of six and 12, representing over 10 per cent of the population of the U. S., will be

(*Continued on page 7*)

MPA, UA Will Test Ban's Constitutionality

Immediate court action in a test will be instituted by the industry to challenge the ban by the Memphis censor board of Hal Roach's "Curley," a comedy featuring children, it was announced jointly yesterday by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association; Gradwell L. Sears, president of United Artists, the distributor, and Roach, the producer. The attack is believed to be a precedent for the MPA. The Memphis board has been charged with indiscriminate censoring of pictures over the past year.

Lloyd Binford, chairman of the board, in turning down the film, raised no objections on moral grounds, but wrote United Artists' exchange in St. Louis:

The Memphis board of censors "was unable to approve your 'Curley' with the little Negroes, as the South does not permit Negroes in white schools nor recognize social equality between the races, even in children."

Declaring that the industry is prepared to fight all the way through the courts "this dangerous threat to freedom of speech and expression," Johnston said, in part:

"The Memphis board's action is outrageous. It is un-American. Here is conclusive evidence that political censorship of any medium of expression cannot be tolerated if we expect American democracy to last. The Memphis ruling will be seized upon by the enemies of America everywhere.

"The board has drawn the issue of

(*Continued on page 3*)

Connors May Become E-L Vice-President

Hollywood, Sept. 18.—Talks are under way between Tom J. Connors, former distribution chief of 20th Century-Fox, and Arthur B. Krim of Eagle-Lion on a deal in which the former 20th-Fox executive would become a vice-president of Eagle-Lion, it is understood here.

Personal Mention

GEORGE SKOURAS, head of Skouras Theatres here, and his family, are due in New York from the Coast by plane.

◆

EDWARD D. COHEN, 20th Century-Fox Latin America supervisor, has left here on a tour of exchanges in Central and South America before returning to his Buenos Aires headquarters.

◆

ADRIAN REMAUGE, managing director of Pathe Cinema, Paris, and his wife are due here today from France for talks with RKO Radio home office executives.

◆

ROBERT S. BENJAMIN, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization here, will fly to Mexico City today before proceeding to Hollywood at the end of next week.

◆

"BABE" COHEN, Monogram Southern district manager, visited the Monogram office in New Orleans last week from Atlanta.

◆

TURHAN BEY, Eagle-Lion star, is due here today from the Coast en route to a visit in New Orleans.

◆

PAUL HOLLISTER, RKO Radio national publicity director, is in Hollywood from New York.

◆

CARROLL H. DUNNING, president of Dunningcolor Corp., is in town from Hollywood.

Annual MMPTA Meet Called for Sept. 29

Annual meeting of members of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association has been called for Sept. 29, to be held in Century Circuit's projection room, here.

There will be no election of directors or officers at this meeting. Century Circuit's Fred Schwartz is president. Members who cannot be present are expected to send representatives authorized to act for them, advises Rodney H. Smith, executive director.

Classics Sues Astor

Film Classics has taken legal action against Astor Pictures Corp. to enjoin Astor from advertising or selling its film "The Game of Games," as a Blanchard and Davis feature, and to enjoin Astor from stating in connection with distribution of the film that Doc Blanchard or Glenn Davis are starred or featured in it, the company stated here yesterday.

Para. Gets Extension

Paramount and Television Productions, Inc., according to a stipulation filed in Federal Court here, has been granted an extension until Oct. 1 to answer cross-claims of Arthur Levey and Scophony Corp. of America. All four are defendants in a U. S. television anti-trust action.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT was remarked here last week that the exhibitor hue and cry over the $1.25 attraction might not tear the ozone completely apart under certain conditions. Principally, this referred to the distributor's faith in his fancy-priced merchandise and preferred playing time.

The argument was simple: Why cut into Saturday-Sunday business, which has been calculated at 50 per cent of the week at the theatre's standard admission, with the advanced price film which is supposed to be good enough to draw them on any other night. This is announced policy at 20th-Fox on the upcoming "Forever Amber," for which traditional weekend time is being sought but not demanded.

◆

We return to the matter because of a few observations made the other day by Ned E. Depinet of RKO Radio. He was championing the advanced admission picture on the basis of performance established by "The Best Years of Our Lives," always making it clear that quality and public acceptance must be the deciding factors. He pointed out that the distributor had better make certain he was proceeding under the influence of these two yardsticks and not under the sole influence of a negative cost that had gotten out of hand.

Depinet made no effort to cover up the fact there had been initial exhibitor resistance to "The Best Years" policy. Part of the public balked at the price hike, too, but whatever complaint developed from ticket buyers, he added, always disappeared after they had seen the film.

Of particular interest, it seemed to us, was his comment that there is no insistence on Saturday-Sunday time. This reflects the confidence of the distributor in his product which is how it should be. For it ought to be completely obvious that an attraction pegged at $1.25 does not belong up there unless it is strong enough to play on the normally worst night of the week.

◆

Around the nation, however, many theatremen continue their opposition to this new trend. They express concern over the before-and-after effects, remembering that theirs is a business which continues after any single attraction, no matter how successful, leaves their screens. R. A. Higdon of Theatre Enterprises, Inc., Dallas [a Griffith Brothers company], typifies the viewpoint. Thus:

"Our analysis is that the large majority of our regular 'showgoing' customers, because of the extreme increase in the cost of living, are reluctant to spend over a certain allotted amount of their earnings weekly for theatre entertainment. In the case of the small-town operation, we practically triple our admission prices on these so-called roadshow attractions, which results in the gross of our regular admission pictures being substantially reduced—both prior and following the roadshow engagement."

Merritt A. Kyser, president of the MPTO of New York State, Inc., Buffalo, poses this: "Which is better — to show to 1,000 people at 40 cents or to 400 people at $1? I think the goodwill of 1,000 people is worth more than the limited amount of goodwill in the 400 who most likely paid the dollar under a suppressed protest."

And from Mrs. M. D. Williams, Oliver Theatre, Oliver Springs, Tenn., comes this: "I do not feel the public should have to pay extra for a good picture when they get no refunds on the bad ones [and there are plenty of them]."

◆

At the Senate subcommittee investigation prior to Pearl Harbor, Wendell Willkie was industry spokesman. At the forthcoming hearings before the House Un-American Activities Committee, Paul V. McNutt will function. He is off to a firm preliminary on very solid ground with this:

"We are fully prepared to meet any charge that American films have propagandized for Communism or any other ism, or for the overthrow of the American way of life.

"The proof is in the pictures themselves. The producers are responsible for the content of these pictures. No one else is responsible. The producers accept that responsibility."

◆ ◆

QUESTION: "Is that firebrand still chewing the furniture these days?"

ANSWER, WITH AN EYE BEAMED TOWARD LONDON: "Only when it's marked '75 Per Cent Tax'."

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"DARK JOURNEY"
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GOTHAM — Times Square

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VINCENT PRICE • ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT
RELEASED BY RKO RADIO

BETTY GRABLE . DAN DAILEY
"MOTHER WORE TIGHTS"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE
JACK HALEY • ELLA LOGAN
Extra: JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS
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20 Firms Set for SMPE Exhibit Here

Arrangements have already been completed by some 20 firms in the equipment field to exhibit at the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, here, according to Robert T. Kenworthy, exhibit manager.

Among the firms participating in the exhibit in conjunction with a theatre engineering conference to be featured at the Society's meeting are: General Electric, Westinghouse, Western Electric, Eastman Kodak, National Theatre Supply, Altec Lansing, Presto Recording, Arlington Electric, Blue Seal Products, Nu Screen, Alexander Smith Carpet Co., American Seating, Ward Leonard Electric, Vorac Products, Eureka Acoustical Products, Lorraine Rubber Engineering, Kollmorgan Optical Co. and Forest Manufacturing Co.

RCA will invite convention delegates to a cocktail party followed by an inspection of its new permanent exhibit in the RCA exhibition hall in Radio City.

Reade Theatres Hold Special Staff Meet

MIDDLETOWN, N. J., Sept. 18.—City and district managers attended a special meeting of Walter Reade Theatres at the home of Walter Reade, Jr., here, and heard Reade discuss "extra" shows, planned for the fall. These will include kiddie shows, midnight shows, etc.

Among those present were: Hal Martz, Nick Schermerhorn, Bob Case, Ralph Lanterman, Johnny Balmer, Tony Hunting, Murray Meinberg, Julius Daniels, Barney Feld, Rocky Dilione, Sam Colosimo, Jack P. Harris, Edwin Gage, Helen Mourad, Arleen Hartenbaum, Jim Watson, Roy Blumenheim and Steve Brener.

Petrillo Bans 'Live' Music on FM Network

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 18.—The American Federation of Musicians, headed by James C. Petrillo, has prohibited the broadcasting of "live" musical shows over the Continental Network, which broadcasts FM programs exclusively, it was announced here by Everett L. Dillard, president of the network.

The action marked the first direct blow by the musicians' union, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, at stations broadcasting only on FM, and officials of the network were at a loss to explain it.

'Ad' Film Companies Answer FTC Charges

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Four advertising film companies cited by the Federal Trade Commission for restraint of trade, today argued their case orally before the full commission. A decision is expected before the end of the month. Should the commission decide that the oral argument does not stand up, a date for full hearings will be set. The four denied that they acted to create a monopoly.

The four are: Ray Bell Films, Alexander Film, United Film Service, and Motion Picture Advertising Service.

Chaplin Would Play Host to Probers

Charles Chaplin, who may be invited to testify at hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington, will invite all members of the committee to see his "Monsieur Verdoux," which will open on Sept. 26 in five Washington theatres.

Golden Testifies on New Color Machine

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 18.—The average motion picture operator would "have no diifficulty whatsoever" learning to operate the Thomascolor projector, Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant for the Commerce Department, testified here yesterday in the Securities and Exchange Commission's investigation of $10,000,000 stock registration of Thomascolor, Inc., of Los Angeles.

Golden said that it would take an operator "about five minutes" to learn to operate the projector. He added that it would cost between $200 and $300 to convert present theatre projection heads to accommodate a Thomascolor lens.

Thomascolor has registered 1,000,000 shares of its $5 per common with the SEC for a proposed public offering at $10 a share. The hearing is to determine whether a "stop order" prohibiting the sale of the stock should be ordered.

Hicks, Brauninger to AMPA 'Salute' Today

Orton Hicks of Loew's International, Al Brauninger of Warners, and James Franey of United World Films, will attend the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' luncheon-meeting "salute" to the 16mm. industry at the Town Hall Club, here, today. In addition, the following also will attend: John Shepherd, *Esquire;* A. L. Frederick, YMCA; Emerson Yorke; Laurence Ely, Empire Projector, and Wendell Shirlds, Encyclopedia Britannica Films.

Arnold Steltz, AMPA president, will preside at the affair which has been ararnged by David A. Bader.

R K O Not Planning Television Changes

RKO Television Corp., which is now functioning under the direction of RKO Pathe, here, will continue exactly as planned when the corporation was formed in 1944, it is announced by Ned E. Depinet, vice-chairman. "Its policy then, and now, is to create and package film shows for television stations and for advertisers through their agencies," a company statement explained.

Tax Closes Theatre

NORWALK, O., Sept. 18.—Edward Ramsey, operating the Plymouth Theatre, only house in nearby Plymouth, today announced its closing on Sept. 29, after the town council last night passed legislation imposing a three per cent admission tax. He claims he has personally absorbed the state tax since its enactment rather than pass it to the public by increasing admissions.

Latins Resent U.S. Musicals: Sturdivant

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18.—Latin American audiences are revolting against lavishly-mounted, multi-million-dollar musicals, according to B. Victor Sturdivant, president of one of Mexico's leading theatre circuits.

"Extravagant production budgets, luxurious settings, and lavish costuming may disguise the lack of honest story material to United States audiences," he said, "but not in the greater part of Latin America where the flight of the dollar is making the problem of earning a daily livelihood more and more acute."

Sturdivant is en route to the Sturdivant Ranch, near San Diego where he will attend the 50th wedding anniversary of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry David Sturdivant, on Friday. He is chief executive of Circuito del Norte.

'If Hollywood hopes to retain its predominant position throughout Latin America," he said, "it had better seek advice from the very few men such as Joseph M. Schenck who really understand what is needed and what is wanted in the countries which lie to the South of us."

Mexican, Argentine and British pictures are beginning to cut deeply into the revenue which Hollywood for so many years has enjoyed from these countries, Sturdivant declared, adding that picture for picture, Mexican productions are easily out-grossing United States pictures despite the fact that they are made for one-tenth as much.

"There also is a growing resentment," he said, "against the extravagant living, unbelievably high salaries, and record-breaking profits about which Hollywood publicity continues to scream."

Fairbanks Continues On Universal Lot

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 18. — Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., has completed negotiations which will keep the Fairbanks Company at Universal-International studios. "The O'Flynn," a novel by Justin Huntly McCarthy, will be his first picture under the new deal and will go before the cameras in Jan., 1948, immediately upon the producer-star's return from 20th Century-Fox where he reports next month to co-star with Betty Grable in "Lady in Ermine."

Television School Starts

The Television Workshop of New York has begun its fall term, to continue for ten weeks, until Nov. 21. A total of 15 courses is offered, 10 of them at night. Instructors include Rudy Bretz of CBS-Television; Max Fleischer, producer of animated films; Chet Kulesza, television production supervisor; Edward Stasheff, script supervisor at station WNYE; Peter Strand, television writer-producer; Vance Hallack, program manager; Tom Wright, research coordinator; Judy Dupuy, editor, and Irwin A. Shane, publisher of *Televiser.*

Start 'Bishop's' Campaign

A $300,000 magazine advertising campaign is being launched this week by Samuel Goldwyn Productions on "The Bishop's Wife," four months in advance of the first playdate for the picture.

New NYC Law an Aid To Theatre Building

The Sharkey rent and eviction control bills, which carry provisions permitting the eviction, under certain conditions, of families to make way for theatre construction and other commercial building, have been signed by Mayor O'Dwyer after having passed the New York City Council and Board of Estimate.

The bills became law despite denunciation of the commercial construction amendments by tenant interests.

Will Test Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

the screen's right to freedom of speech. We intend to meet it head-on, in the most forceful fashion we can devise," he concluded.

Roach declared, "Censor Binford is trying to turn the clock back. The aged Binford is still fighting the Civil War.

"This picture is as clean as a whistle. I do not believe the courts will sustain him (Binford)."

Sears declared that, "If today Binford can ban a motion picture showing white and colored kids playing together, then tomorrow some other Binford may ban the use by newspapers of photographs showing the Brooklyn Dodgers or a group of permanently disabled soldiers or sailors of different races in a veteran's hospital.

"I have instructed our lawyers to test the constitutionality of Binford's political censorship."

Skouras Appointed

(*Continued from page* 1)

Central Station on Sept. 25. It will show in Manhattan on the 25th and 26th, and on the 26th, 27th and 28th in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx, respectively. The American Heritage program is sponsored by the U. S. Attorney General of the U. S.

In a meeting held here yesterday at the office of Fred Schwartz, president of the Metropolitan Theatre Owners Association and president of Century Circuit, Skouras addressed key exhibitors. Arrangements were completed to show the Foundation's film, "The American Heritage," produced by Dore Schary, production head of RKO Radio, and narrated by Joseph Cotten, in every theatre in New York's metropolitan area. It is estimated the film, distributed by National Screen Service, will be on the screens of more than 800 houses during the week.

Steinman Rites Today

Funeral services will be held at the Mid-Town Chapel, here, today for Mrs. Herma Frieder Steinman, daughter of Henry Frieder, veteran Hudson, N. Y., exhibitor. Mrs. Steinman died at her New York home on Wednesday. She was the wife of Melvin Steinman and mother of Jack Steinman, former New York exhibitor.

Universal Dividend

Universal's board of directors, meeting here yesterday, declared a regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents per share on common stock, payable Oct. 31, to stockholders of record on Oct. 15.

IN NEW YORK–
LOS ANGELES–
CLEVELAND–
LONG BEACH–
SAN FRANCISCO–
SAN DIEGO–
RIVERSIDE–
BOSTON AND
WASHINGTON–
SURPASSING
THE BOXOFFICE
HIGHS OF 20th's
BIGGEST
MONEY-GETTING
REAL-LIFE
TECHNIQUE
TRIUMPHS . . . "The
House on 92nd St."
"13 Rue Madeleine"
"Boomerang!"

KISS OF DEATH

Everywhere it's

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS

Color by TECHNICOLOR

IN NEW YORK–
BALTIMORE–
PROVIDENCE–
CHICAGO–
MILWAUKEE–
NEW HAVEN–
SALT LAKE CITY–
DETROIT–
KANSAS CITY
and
PHILADELPHIA–
DANCING RINGS
AROUND THE
RECORDS OF
20th's GREATEST
TECHNICOLOR HITS
..."State Fair"
"The Dolly Sisters"
"I Wonder Who's
Kissing Her Now"!

Century-Fox!

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Aug. 17	SMOKY RIVER SERENADE Hoosier Hotshots Paul Campbell O (851)	RED STALLION (C. lor) Robert Paige Noreen Nash D—81 min. (107) (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rec. 6/27/47)	RIDIN' DOWN THE TRAIL Jimmy Wakely O	(Pine-Thomas) JUNGLE FLIGHT Robert Lowery Ann Savavge D—67 mins. (4625) (Rev. 2/24/47)	MARSHAL OF CRIPPLE CREEK Alan Lane Bobby Blake O—58 min. (667) (Rev. 9/2/47)	(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)		(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 24		GAS HOUSE KIDS IN HOLLYWOOD Carl Switzer C—62 min. (Rev. 9/2/47)	ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)	THE PRETENDER Albert Dekker Catherine Craig D—69 min. (620) (Rev. 8/18/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (701) (Rev. 7/30/47)
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)	RAILROADED John Ireland D		(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)		ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min. (651) (Rev. 9/8/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D (821)	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)		EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min. (Rev. 9/14/47)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)			
Sept. 14			THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)		DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min. (621)	(Block 1: 47-48)	KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)		SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Sept. 28		BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O		KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland	ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751)	THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min.	RETURN OF THE LASH Al "Lash" La Rue Al St. John O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	BOWERY BUCKAROOS Leo Gorcey C	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)		UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev. 10/20/41)			(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER Chas. Starret Smiley Burnette O-55 min.		SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)	THE RED HORNET			RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D			(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Oct. 19	BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 min.						CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D			THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706)
Oct. 26	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon										

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dran*
(M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

Wehrenberg

(*Continued from page 1*)

in their assaults upon exhibition to distinguish or differentiate between independent and affiliated exhibitors, as some exhibitor organizations do when it comes time to cope with such common problems.

Levies against theatre box-offices are impartial, taking from independent and affiliated alike. Exhibitor de[illegible]s against them should be the same, Wehrenberg will say, and only through unity can exhibition's defense be effective for all.

Exhibitor Problems Hit All

"Weasel words are constantly being uttered by some that no association can be successful which includes in its ranks affiliated, partially affiliated, as well as unaffiliated theatres," Wehrenberg will say. "That is an unfounded statement, as experience has shown," he added.

"I would like those persons to stop generalizing and to name specifically any problems in the last few years that are merely independent exhibitor problems, as distinguished from all-exhibitor, industry ones," the MPTOA president will say.

Of trade practices, Wehrenberg will say: "I am convinced by long experience and observation of exhibitor organization that no association which ignores or refuses to deal with unfair trade practices can survive or amount to much. You cannot get independent exhibitor support without recognizing this problem. And without such support, you have no exhibitor organization."

Protection for 'Little Fellow'

"The big fellow can and usually does take care of himself, but the little fellow gets pushed around. He needs organization, help and protection. If he does not get it, he gets out of the organization and joins one that promises to give it to him."

"The question with which the industry is faced," Wehrenberg will say, "is, what are we going to do about the abuses, injustices and grievances in our trade practices? Either we take care of these abuses intelligently between ourselves by organized self-regulation and self-discipline or they will be settled in the courts and legislatures, arbitrarily, expensively and with continuous ill-will. We have had too much of that in recent years."

Si Fabian, president of ATA, will also address the opening session tomorrow morning.

Job for Everybody

(*Continued from page 1*)

organization will have been laid as a result.

Twelve heavily-staffed policy-making convention committees will serve as avenues of activity for the vast majority of delegates. Recommendations passed by each committee will, if approved by the convention at large, strongly influence the future operations of the organization which is expected to evolve from the merger.

The committees will deal separately with the following: the Ascap theatre music license rate increase, theatre television, public relations, legislation, a film program, organization, budget and finance, campaigns and charities, distributor-exhibitor relations, audience expansion, the New York anti-trust suit, advanced admissions, and other subjects.

Gamble Heads

(*Continued from page 1*)

tion for at least several months. He has held the same post in ATA.

It appeared tonight there would be no opposition to the slate. Any change in this line-up would result from a candidate's flat refusal to serve.

The following developments were also clearly indicated on the eve of the opening of the convention:

The name of the new organization will be, as originally proposed, Theatre Owners of America;

Trade practices will be included in the new organization's activities.

Those were the questions which, until tonight, appeared most likely to become convention issues.

A move for retention of the MPTOA name, while it will be made probably on the convention floor, appears to lack sufficient support to become a serious problem. Likewise, ATA die-hards, opposed to inclusion of trade practices in TOA activities, are in an obvious minority and may make no convention stand whatever on the subject.

A budget of between $200,000 and $250,000 will be recommended to the convention for TOA's first year of operations.

More than 200 delegates had registered by tonight, bringing the attendance, inclusive of guests, to approximately twice that number.

A total of 13 convention committees will be named tomorrow, and all of their sessions will be thrown open to the press.

Myers to TOA

(*Continued from page 1*)

the MPTOA-ATA directors the action taken by Allied in Washington and in various parts of the country to meet the (Ascap) crisis," and will take with him copies of Allied bulletins and reports on Ascap.

Myers, it is said, will not try to "sell" Allied's Ascap program to the convention, but will indicate that Allied will welcome the support of all organizations and exhibitors in putting it over.

Among other things, Myers will report on Allied's request to the U. S. Attorney-General to proceed against Ascap, Allied's study of the legality of Ascap's organization, and the work of Allied units in various parts of the country in lining up Congressional support to curb Ascap's power.

Myers' acceptance followed a personal invitation from Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president. Acceptance was authorized by Allied's executive board, Myers said, because "the invitation was properly limited to Ascap."

Ted Gamble, ATA board chairman, said today that he was "pleased that Myers had agreed to sit down." He is hopeful, Gamble said, "that some industry unity on matters of common interest can emerge from this convention."

NAB Urges Code

(*Continued from page 1*)

pendents with whom he conferred informally overnight is against the standards. Complaint that independent stations had been discriminated against to their great disadvantage was modified today.

"We were neglected," he told NAB president Justin Miller. He said he had not named a committee of independents to air complaints because "too many people want to serve on it."

MPA 'Library'

(*Continued from page 1*)

served regularly by the 2,500 theatres, whose locations are calculated to accommodate the greatest number of children in their respective areas, Johnston said. Under the "Children's Film Library" program, films specially graded for children in the six-to-12 age bracket are shown in participating theatres each Saturday.

The program, headed by MPA's Arthur De Bra, Mrs. Marjorie Dawson and David Palfreyman, will start its new year with 42 features. The standing list will include the following 15 which will be added this week:

"Dog of Flanders" and "Mother Carey's Chickens" (RKO Radio); "Little Old New York," "Young Mr. Lincoln," "The Story of Alexander Graham Bell" (20th Century-Fox); "The Biscuit Eater," "Geronimo," "Henry Aldrich, Boy Scout" (Paramount); "Christmas Carol," "Stablemates" (M-G-M); "Son of Davy Crockett," "Junior Army" (Columbia); "Penrod and Sam" (Warner Brothers); "Three Smart Girls" (Universal - International); "Swiss Family Robinson" (Astor).

In order to facilitate weekly Saturday shows for theatre owners throughout the entire year, the library will supplement its own listing with recent and current motion pictures. Those films which industry preview committees regularly classify as "for children" may be booked by exhibitors who cooperate in the movement, according to the MPA. Various national civic organizations, schools and clubs are active participants in the work of classifying films for the program.

Local 306 - 'IA' Clash

(*Continued from page 1*)

the international and the local developed into an open wrangle in the presence of the employer representatives at a session at the Hotel Astor, and that employer representatives left the negotiating room while the union officials smoothed out their quarrel.

It is believed that 306 officials feel strongly that the international is inclined to restrain the local's wage demands too much, while international officials are believed to think that the local's position might possibly jeopardize the IATSE's general peaceful relations with the industry.

When the local's representatives appeared before the recent 'IA' executive board meeting in Boston, the board did not give a yes or no answer to their request for strike sanction. It is understood, however, that the board did approve the local's position on settling with the Randforce and Skouras circuits. The local subsequently signed a contract with those two circuits for a 15 per cent increase, and thus split the heretofore united ranks of the circuit representatives.

It is understood that the decision of the two circuits to sign with 306 created much bitterness on the part of the other circuits still dickering with the local. A 306 membership meeting on Wednesday, at which it was agreed to postpone the scheduled strike, also angered some circuit representatives who complained that some projectionists arrived late for work.

Inner union friction may come into the open when Local 306's election of officers is held in December.

M-G-M TRADE SHOWINGS

BOSTON TERRITORY ONLY

"THE WOMEN"

AND

"DESIRE ME"

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th

9:15 A. M.

*UPTOWN THEATRE

239 Huntington St., Boston, Mass.

*Change of Location. Screening originally advertised in another theatre.

By the touch of his pencil, Cinderella is transformed . . .

EVEN before she speaks or moves . . . she has put across the character she plays—thanks to the creative pencil of the costume designer.

With it he has touched fabrics and fashions . . . transformed Cinderella . . . given eloquent expression to the role she portrays.

Through artistry such as this, the costume designer has done much to heighten the color, the realism, the drama of the "movie."

And his important contribution has been—and continues to be—all the more effective because of faithful photographic reproduction of the costumes he creates . . . through the industry's extensive use of the large and versatile family of Eastman motion picture films.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
ROCHESTER 4, N. Y.

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC., DISTRIBUTORS
FORT LEE • CHICAGO • HOLLYWOOD

FILE COPY
REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 58 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1947 TEN CENTS

TOA to Take Upped Prices To Presidents

Feel Business Hurt by Too Many Such Films

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Theatre Owners of America went into trade practices with a vengeance at its first convention, adopting a resolution which directed the appointment of a committee to consult with company presidents, not sales managers, for a study of the problem of "too many advanced admission price pictures within a relatively short time."

The convention here on Saturday heard the protests of many classes of exhibitors from many sections of the country on the subject of advanced admissions. All appeared to be agreed that the policy is being exploited to the injury of theatre business in numerous situations.

Protests were heard that the percentage of price increase for small theatres forced to charge $1.20 instead

(Continued on page 7)

Radio Now Has a Code

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 21.—Radio broadcasters now have a code for establishing a higher level of tastes in air entertainment, similar in purpose to the Production Code which motion picture producers adopted, also voluntarily, more than 17 years ago.

After most of the opposition had faded during a general membership meeting of the annual National Broadcasters' Association convention here, NAB directors at the weekend adopted the "Standards of Practice" pro-

(Continued on page 5)

43 Called to House 'Red' Probe Oct. 20

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The House Un-American Activities Committee has announced the names of 43 prominent film figures it has subpoenaed to testify at the committee's forthcoming hearings on alleged Communist influence in the motion picture industry, and at the same time re-

(Continued on page 5)

Fears New Building Code Very 'Costly'

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 21.—If the interpretation made here by State Labor Department building code expert John Coggeshall of what constitutes a motion picture theatre stage under the new standards proposed for the New York State building code does not prevail, the state's small theatres stand to suffer expenses amounting to "thousands of dollars," Smalley Theatres' attorney Leonard Rosenthal has declared.

Replying to a Smalley memorandum requesting an interpretation, Coggeshall said the "old Class A" stage, which is involved under the new code, must have raised platform, movable scenery and a scenery loft. If a stage is so constituted, Coggeshall stated, it will be affected by the provisions of the code proposals, even though it is not used for stage performances. On the other hand, he said, if a stage has just one permanent set or drop, and has no changeable scenery, it is not a stage.

Most small theatres have "stages" which are in the latter category, Rosenthal said.

Propaganda Ads in Reels Hit by TOA

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 21.—Propaganda and advertising in newsreels was cited as a cause for concern by exhibitors in a resolution presented to the convention of Theatre Owners of America here.

The committee said it found propaganda in a current newsreel on the

(Continued on page 7)

THEATRE OWNERS OF AMERICA SET

Trade Practices Are Approved for New Organization of 10,000

By SHERWIN KANE

Ted R. Gamble

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Theatre Owners of America, the new national exhibitor organization comprising a merger of American Theatres Association and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, was created here on Friday at a joint convention of the two.

The merger was approved by the unanimous vote of approximately 300 delegates representing an estimated 10,000 theatres in 38 states and the District of Columbia. Trade statisticians say it is a single exhibitor organization.

With the adoption by the convention of the constitution of the new organi-

(Continued on page 7)

Mills Warns Exhibitors On Ascap Suits

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—The largest assemblage of exhibitors' organizations to be united on a trade problem in years, were warned by E. C. Mills, former general manager of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, not to rely upon litigation to solve their differences with Ascap over increased theatre music licensing fees.

"Ascap is thoroughly armed with the law, and its right to levy what fees it will has the stamp of approval of the Department of Justice through the

(Continued on page 6)

TOA to Seek Trade Practices Code

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Formulation and adoption of a code of fair trade practices to eliminate unfair policies, an objective often sought and rarely realized by exhibitor organizations, will be espoused by Theatre Owners of America.

The first convention of the organ-

(Continued on page 5)

TOA Seeks Richey To Succeed Coyne

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—H. M. Richey, exhibitor relations director for M-G-M, is being sought by the new Theatre Owners of America as executive director. His contract with M-G-M will expire on Dec. 31, and to accept the post earlier he would have to obtain a release from the company.

Before joining Metro, Richey held a similar post with RKO Radio and was active in exhibitor organization work for many years as secretary of Michigan Allied. Robert Coyne, who was executive director of American Theatres Association, will continue in the post with TOA until a new appointment is made. Coyne plans to enter theatre operation in the near future.

It is learned that TOA also is interested in obtaining the services of David Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association. Palfreyman has been in charge of theatre relations for the industry trade association for many years and formerly was a Detroit theatre executive.

Wilby Wins TOA By-Laws Change; Affiliateds Hit

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—R. B. Wilby, Paramount partner in the operation of Georgia theatres, went to the floor of the convention on Friday and won a change in the by-laws of the new Theatre Owners of America, which eliminated the designation by affiliated circuits of their own representatives on the board of directors of the new organization.

Stating that he spoke as an affiliated theatre operator, Wilby said that he thought that only the regional organizations affiliated with TOA should have the right to elect directors to the national organization's board.

Wilby had made an unsuccessful stand during the preceding night in joint meetings of the boards of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. He carried the proposal to the convention floor the next morning, where it was adopted unanimously.

With elimination of the by-law permitting the designation of affiliated circuit representatives to the TOA board, there also was eliminated another which permitted large independent circuits, acting jointly, to name two members to the national board.

Affiliated representatives are not

(Continued on page 6)

Rites for LaGuardia To Be Held Today

Funeral services for Fiorello H. LaGuardia, former Mayor of New York City, and a friend of many key figures in the industry, will be held here this afternoon at 2:30 P.M. at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. LaGuardia died Saturday at his home at Riverdale after a long illness. He was 64.

LaGuardia, one of America's most colorful public servants, was a frequent guest at industry dinners, and was consulted frequently on industry problems while heading the nation's greatest city. Many of his industry friends are expected to attend the rites today.

His rise to national and international prominence traced the familiar Horatio Alger rags-to-riches pattern, but LaGuardia himself could never be pressed into any mold. A temperamental personality with a flair for either stormy or sentimental scenes in the public eye, LaGuardia was versatility itself, whether the occasion called for skill in foreign languages, a grasp of international social and political problems, or the ruthless smashing of a powerful political machine.

He was born in New York City, but spent his boyhood in the Southwest, where his father, an Army musician, was stationed. After acquiring academic degrees with alacrity, LaGuardia entered the consular service, serving in Hungary and Austria. He also served as an interpreter at Ellis Island.

He was a major in World War I, commanding American air squadrons on the Italian front. He was a Congressman, whose sharp tongue flailed many an opponent, from 1917 to 1921 and from 1923 to 1933. He served as Mayor of New York from 1938 to 1945. During the war, LaGuardia was director of the Office of Civilian Defense. He later served as director general of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Association.

He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Marie Fisher LaGuardia, and two children, Erik and Jean.

Owen Opens Para. Sales Meet Today

A series of Paramount branch conferences in the East on the company's 1947 "Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership" drive will begin today in Albany, where Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division manager, will preside. The drive began on Aug. 31 and will run to Nov. 29.

Owen will visit New Haven tomorrow, and Boston on Wednesday and Thursday. On Friday, he will visit Buffalo.

Howell With Feldman

Miriam Howell, former Eastern production representative for Samuel Goldwyn, will become head of the New York office of Famous Artists Corp., commencing Oct. 1. Previous to her association with Goldwyn Miss Howell was head of the Myron Selznick office in New York. Charles Feldman heads Famous Artists.

Personal Mention

MILTON S. KUSELL, distribution vice-president for Selznick Releasing Organization, is in Hollywood from New York for conferences with DAVID O. SELZNICK, DANIEL T. O'SHEA and PAUL MACNAMARA.

•

NORTON RITCHEY, president of Monogram-International, arrived in Lisbon at the weekend from Madrid, on a European tour.

•

DAVE ROSS, producer, left Hollywood for New York yesterday.

•

DONALD NELSON, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will fly to Washington from Hollywood tomorrow.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warner Brothers, flew to Kansas City at the weekend for conferences. He is due back today.

•

MARGARET ETTINGER of Michael Curtiz Productions, left here for the Coast over the weekend.

•

JOHN T. HOWARD, Western division manager of Selznick Releasing Organization, has returned to Los Angeles from Seattle and San Francisco. He will leave tomorrow for Salt Lake City and Denver.

•

RAY BURR, assistant manager of the Strand, New Orleans, and MRS. BURR are parents of a son.

JACK WARNER, production vice-president of Warner Brothers, flew from London to Paris at the weekend. He plans to fly to New York from Brussels tomorrow.

•

SIR ALEXANDER KING, Scottish exhibitor, left London for New York at the weekend with his wife and two daughters, aboard the *S.S. Queen Mary*.

•

ALFRED CROWN, foreign manager for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, has returned here after a seven-week trip to Europe.

•

BEN K. BLAKE has returned to New York after a month in California shooting sequences in Los Angeles and San Francisco for a series of films.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, left Hollywood at the weekend for New York after a week of studio conferences.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres labor relations head, will leave here for a New England trip tonight and will return at the end of the week.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will address the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association convention, to be held in Kansas City Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

•

WILLIAM GOETZ left Hollywood for New York yesterday.

$3,648,000 Trust Suit Against 11

A $3,648,000 triple-damage anti-trust suit was filed in Federal Court, here, at the weekend, against eight distributors by Radio Centre, Inc., owner and operator of the Mosque Theatre, Newark, charging that for the past six years the Mosque has been refused pictures on a first-run basis.

Also named as defendants are Essex Amusements, Skouras Theatres and the Nu-Broad Co., all of which operate theatres in and around Newark and which, Radio Centre charges, received preferential treatment in the distribution of first-run films.

Seeking an injunction against the defendants, Radio Centre, which has owned and operated the Mosque since 1944, alleges that it has suffered damages amounting to $1,216,000 by virture of having been unable to show first-run pictures since it took over the theatre.

Federation Meets Today

TRENTON, Sept. 21.—Circuit and exhibitor organization representatives of the Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners will meet at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, here, tomorrow to decide whether the Federation shall continue as a permanent tax-fighting unit. George Gold, Federation chairman, will preside.

Cites Aid of 16mm. Films to 35mm. Field

Sixteen millimeter films are building new audiences for the 35mm. theatre business, William F. Kruse, president of the Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association, told 125 guests Friday at the Town Hall club here at the Association of Motion Picture Advertisers' luncheon salute to the 16mm. industry.

"You will find those potential audiences in clubs and churches, in trade unions and political gatherings, or perhaps just staying at home," Kruse said. "The 16mm. film goes right to those groups, winning new friends daily because of new services our industry is now able to render."

The "oneness" of the 16 and 35mm. industry has finally become a recognized fact, the A.N.F.A. president said.

The meeting was opened with an introductory talk by David Bader, editor of the *16mm. Reporter,* and was concluded with a short talk by Arnold Stoltz, AMPA president. Attending were representatives of all branches of the 16mm. industry, including James M. Franey, president of United World; Albert J. Rosenberg, manager of McGraw-Hill Textfilms; Wendell Shields, Encyclopedia Films; Harry Post, president of Post Pictures; Tom Baird of the British Information Service, and managers of the 16mm. divisions of the major film companies.

Newsreel Parade

FLORIDA'S disastrous hurricane is recorded in all but one of the current newsreels. All issues spotlight United Nations activities, and most feature the swearing in of James R. Forrestal as Secretary of Defense, launching of the "Freedom Train," and John Cobb establishing a new auto speed record, along with miscellaneous subjects. Complete contents follow.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 7—United Nations Security Council deadlocked by more Soviet vetoes. UN General Assembly hears Secretary Marshall. Forrestal sworn in as first Secretary of National Defense. Hurricane sweeps Florida with wild fury. John Cobb races his car to a new speed record. Here comes the "Freedom Train!"

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 205—Marshall scores UN veto power. Hurricane reaches Florida. Bing Crosby sings Irving Berlin tune to launch "Freedom Train." Forrestal takes over as new Defense chief. Olympic diving champs.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 8—Canada rushes pulp to ease world shortage. Forrestal takes over as Secretary of Defense. Veto issue dominates United Nations opening. Here comes the "Freedom Train!"

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 75—Worst hurricane in 17 years rips Florida. General Marshall scores Reds for failure to help settle peace problems. "Freedom Train" starts countrywide tour. John Cobb tops 400 mph on Utah salt flats. Philadelphia: pre-football thriller.

WARNER-PATHE NEWS, No. 10—United Nations Assembly meets in New York. Hurricane rips through Florida. Los Alamos atom plant. John Cobb speeds to new record. Pendleton, Ore., holds rodeo.

Atomic Energy Unit Shown in Newsreel

An exclusive pictorial story of the Los Alamos, N. M., atomic energy project and the development of atomic power for peacetime use is being released today by Warner-Pathe News, issue No. 10.

Shown in the reel is the work of Doctors David and Jane Hall in the production of the so-called "tame" bombs for industrial use. The reel also shows how the atomic city of 8,000 work and play, its facilities for religious worship and education, and the precautions taken to maintain the secrecy of the project.

Smith and Lange Are Promoted by Mochrie

Joseph P. Smith has been advanced from RKO Radio branch manager in Portland to head the company's San Francisco exchange, succeeding N. P. Jacobs, who has resigned. In announcing the change, Robert Mochrie, distribution vice-president, also made known that Richard Lange, formerly sales manager in Los Angeles, has been promoted to branch manager in Portland.

No Connors Talks: Krim

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 21.—No negotiations are in progress with former 20th Century-Fox vice-president Tom J. Connors regarding his joining Eagle-Lion, Arthur B. Krim, E-L president, said at the weekend. Last week indications came from E-L sources that a deal was in the offing.

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"THE STUFF IT TAKES TO LURE THEM TO THE BOX OFFICE!"

Is Daily Variety's Rave for UA's . . .

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BORIS KARLOFF

in

"LURED"

with

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE · JOSEPH CALLEIA
ALAN MOWBRAY · GEORGE ZUCCO
directed by DOUGLAS SIRK · Screenplay by LEO ROSTEN · produced by JAMES NASSER
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"MIGHTY FINE!"
Film Daily

"ENGROSSING. BALL GIVES JUST THE RIGHT TOUCH!"
Hollywood Reporter

"FOR KEEN AUDIENCE ENJOYMENT!"
Independent

"A POSITIVE FACTOR AT THE B.O.!"
Variety

Optimism Keynote Of FC Convention

Film Classics has its sights trained on a higher place in distribution, Samuel Wheeler, general sales manager, told the company's first national sales meeting at the Roosevelt Hotel, here, over the weekend. The two-day meeting was climaxed by a dinner at the Hotel Astor on Saturday night.

Asserting that in its five years of reissue distribution, Film Classics had laid the groundwork for a future in new product, Wheeler said: "We may be the baby of the industry, but we are on solid ground and we know where we are going."

Other speakers included company president Joseph Bernhard, who disclosed that FC would follow the release of the new "Spirit of West Point" with a new "Falcon" series; assistant general sales manager Jules K. Chapman, who called for close cooperation with exhibitors, and advertising-publicity director Al Zimbalist, who said his department has slated campaigns "that would reach international proportions." Bernhard also announced the company had purchased 50 Universal Realart pictures which will be released at the rate of 10 a year.

Among branch managers present were: Ralph Peckham, Atlanta; Maurice Green, Boston; Joseph Miller, Buffalo; Edward Spiers, Chicago; J. H. Lutzer, Dallas; George Lefko, Indianapolis; Leslie Durland, Kansas City; Robert P. Ableson, Los Angeles; Max Mazur, Milwaukee; George Waldman and Sydney Weiner, New York; Morton Magill, Philadelphia; Jack Kloepper, Portland; Fred Ableson, San Francisco; Ralph de Burgos, Washington.

Commonwealth Will Increase Prices

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 21.—Commonwealth Theatres will increase admission schedules of many of its houses five to 10 cents. Decision in this respect was arrived at during the company's annual fall meeting last week.

A few months ago the circuit instituted basic admission increases in a number of its key situations, and it will now equalize prices throughout the circuit.

SOPEG Wage Talks

Negotiations on the request of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, for a 30 per cent wage increase for 2,500 home office employes will be resumed here tomorrow at the Hotel Astor. Company and union representatives held a second negotiation session at the Hotel Lincoln here.

Oestreich Heads H-63

Eli Oestreich, an employe of the Warner sales department, here, has been elected president of Motion Picture Home Office Employes Local No. H-63, IATSE, to succeed William Starr, resigned. Oestreich will hold office until Jan., 1948, when an election will take place.

Acquire Film Rights

Favorite Film Corp., here, has acquired U. S. reissue rights to "Three Musketeers" and have scheduled it for national release on Dec. 15.

Ban Test Pleases Memphis Public

Memphis, Sept. 21.—Announcement in New York that the Motion Picture Association would institute court action against Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the Memphis board of censors, has been received virtually with glee by the Memphis theatre-going public.

Binford banned "Curley," a Hal Roach comedy, because it shows white and Negro children playing together. The Motion Picture Association, Roach, and United Artists, distributor of the film, plan to challenge the constitutionality of the ban.

MPEA Drafts 16mm. Overseas Program

Likelihood that 16mm. release operations will soon be inaugurated in several Motion Picture Export Association markets was indicated following a conference of member company departmental heads held here at the weekend.

Object of the meeting, which was called by Irving Maas. MPEA vice-president and general manager, was to clear up a number of technical problems involved in the supply and marketing of narrow-gauge product in MPEA's continental territories.

Maas told the company representatives that, according to present plans, a 16mm. distribution program would be launched in Holland and Hungary in the near future and in Czechoslovakia and Poland shortly thereafter.

MPEA member company delegates who attended the meeting included: D. D. Horne, Allied Artists; J. W. Dodd, Columbia; Orton Hicks and H. Falconer, Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer; Maurice Frohlich, Paramount; Alan Silverbach, 20th Century-Fox; H. Sugarman, Universal - International, and A. C. Brauninger, Warners. Representing MPEA, in addition to Maas, were Joe C. Goltz, Carl Selan and Sidney Lieb.

10 Yearly From New Italian Film Firm

Saturnia Film Districting Corp. has opened offices in New York for the purpose of importing and distributing Italian-made motion pictures. Its officers are: Vincent Politano, president; Sal Di Gennaro, general manager, and John Castiglione, advertising-publicity manager.

It expects to import an average of eight to 10 pictures a year. The first to be released, with English titles, is "Farewell My Beautiful Naples," in October at the Cinema Verdi, New York.

Burke With Warners

Mort Blumenstock, Warner vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, has added A. L. Burke to the field public relations staff to handle special assignments on "Life With Father" in the South. For the past 10 years Burke has been with M-G-M. He left New York over the weekend to take up his new assignment.

Radio Now Has Code

(*Continued from page 1*)

posed at the convention earlier in the week.

In voting to adopt the code, which establishes broadcast standards aimed at preventing excessive commercial announcements, besides establishing high standards of taste for the radio industry, the board left the way open for its revision in November.

Under the resolution the code will be effective on Feb. 1, 1948, subject to contracts in existence on Sept. 19, 1947.

The resolution said that inasmuch as the industry has not had a full opportunity to discuss and familiarize itself with all sections of the new code, copies will be sent immediately to all members.

They are urged to contact their directors either personally or by mail prior to Nov. 1, to present their views and suggestions as to specific sections of the code. It is the plan of the board to then review and revise the code at its November meeting.

Trade Practices Code

(*Continued from page 1*)

ization adopted a resolution here yesterday calling for the appointment of a permanent distributor-exhibitor relations committee to explore and report upon such a project as well as the possibilities of adoption of industry methods of mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

The industry arbitration system will pass from existence with the expiration of the stay in the industry New York court suit decree unless the Supreme Court reverses the lower court on the pending appeals.

The committe which proposed the resolution, chairmaned by Paul Williams of Southern California Theatre Owners Association, recommended the move to counter what it regards as threatened Government regulation of the industry or court control of it, with self-regulation.

It proposed that the permanent committee consist of at least one unaffiliated member from every region of the U. S., with a chairman appointed by the national organization.

Harriman Talk on UK Is 'Off-the-Record'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Secretary of Commerce W. Averell Harriman discussed the British film tax situation and world food and monetary conditions in an off-the-record address to the Theatre Owners of America at its convention here Friday.

Although Secretary Harriman requested that he not be quoted, it may be said that his remarks added nothing to what is common knowledge within the trade of the British situation.

Jail Term for Sundays

CLEVELAND, N. C., Sept. 21.—Judge W. L. Angel, presiding over Cleveland Recorder's Court, ruled against the Drive-In Theatre near Shelby, in its efforts to be permitted to operate on Sunday, and the owners entered an appeal from the judgment. Judge Angel sentenced each of the owners, Buddy Heafner and Jim Smith, to 10 days in jail, the sentences to be suspended on payment of costs and on condition that they do not operate on Sundays.

Extend Deadline for 'Red' Affidavits

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—An extension to Oct. 31 of the deadline for the signing of affidavits disavowing Communism membership by union officials has been given by the National Labor Relations Board and its general counsel, Robert N. Denham.

As a result, the board will not dismiss any American Federation of Labor or Congress of Industrial Organizations cases before that date. The original deadline has been set for Tuesday. About 5,000 cases are pending before the board.

Denham's interpretation of the Taft-Hartley law has been that national officers of the AFL and CIO must sign the affidavits if their unions are to use the board's services.

The extension was granted at the request of several international and local unions, according to the board and Denham.

House 'Red' Probe

(*Continued from page 1*)

vealed that these hearings had been postponed until Oct. 20.

Among those subpoenaed are MPA president Eric Johnston, Jack L. Warner, Louis B. Mayer, Samuel Goldwyn, Charles Chaplin, Leo McCarey, Walt Disney, Lewis B. Milstone, Sam Wood, former Russian Ambassador Joseph E. Davies, and former Office of Government Reports head Lowell Mellett.

The Hollywood hearings originally had been scheduled to begin Sept. 29, immediately after the committee's investigation of film composer Hans Eisler, which opens on Wednesday. The Eisler hearings will be held as scheduled, the committee said, since "all of the witnesses have been subpoenaed and are in Washington at this time, some having been brought from foreign countries." However, it continued, many committee members will not be able to be present due to illnesses and service on committees now abroad, and it was decided advisable to postpone the Hollywood hearings until Oct. 20.

Other film figures for whom subpoenas are "now in the process of being served" are: Alva H. Bessie, Roy E. Brewer, Herbert Biberman, Berthold Brecht, Lester Cole, Gary Cooper, Edward Dmytryk, Cedric Gibbons, Rupert Hughes, Howard Koch, Ring Lardner, Jr., John Howard Lawson, Albert Maltz, James McGuiness, Adolph Menjou, Sam Moore, John Charles Moffitt, Robert Montgomery, George Murphy, Clifford Odets, Larry Parks, William Pomerance, Ronald Reagan, Lela E. Rogers, Howard Rushmore, Morrie Ryskind, Adrian Scott, Dore Schary, Donald Ogden Stewart, Robert Taylor, Waldo Salt, and Dalton Trumbo.

Committee chairman Thomas said he wanted to emphasize that "the mere fact that they are being called to testify before the committee should not be considered a reflection in any way upon their character or patriotism."

"These persons are being brought with the sole objective of obtaining the facts regarding the inroads the Communists have made in Hollywood," Thomas said. "Some of the witnesses are friendly to the committee's purpose. Others are undoubtedly hostile. The committee wants to hear both sides."

Skouras See 50% Cut in 20th-Fox Film Remittances

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—"Our foreign remittances will be reduced, beginning March 1, 1948, to a maximum of 50 per cent, and to be absolutely frank, I believe, as low as one-third," Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, told exhibitor delegates to the Theatre Owners of America convention at the Hotel Shoreham here. Skouras was reviewing the effects of the British tax.

He pointed out that in 1946, the firm's total foreign remittances were more than $23,000,000. Already, New Zealand and Australia have reduced remittances, and Argentina has blocked the company's money, Skouras said.

Stresses Need for Better Terms

"If the terms obtained by motion picture companies from you for their films are not improved, I can tell you that within a very short time you will be confronted by the same fate as the British exhibitor," Skouras told the delegates.

Skouras reviewed the British tax situation, and declared that the tax "has all the appearances of being primarily an effort of preventing American films from going to England." He asserted that he did not believe the British film industry can "overcome the loss of American films."

"In 1946, 20th Century-Fox showed a profit of $22,600,000, of which $12,800,000 came from our theatre department. The total profit from the film department, therefore, was a little more than $9,000,000, both domestic and foreign, and of that amount $1,000,000 came from sources other than film rentals.

"If we take one-half of the $23,000,000 remitted to 20th-Fox in the U. S. from the foreign market last year, the film company would have been $2,500,000 in the red. If we are to be more realistic and use the one-third figure, our film company would have lost almost $7,000,000.

Expenses Reduction Imperative

"In short, our situation presently is that unless we set to work immediately toward reducing production costs and other expenses, as well as increasing our domestic revenue, we will be in the red."

Skouras declared that film companies could no longer carry the major share of advertising and exploitation expenses in individual situations, saying: "This practice grew rapidly during the war years and the result is that today, in many instances, the participation of first-run theatres in advertising-exploitation campaigns is as little as one-half or even one-third of the total expenditure. If you want the film companies to remain in business, they cannot any longer continue this practice on such a scale. From now on, the responsibility must be shared by you," he told the exhibitors.

3 Who Couldn't Attend

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Paramount president Barney Balaban, and RKO Radio executive vice-president Ned E. Depinet were among invited guests who were unable to attend the Theatre Owners of America convention here this weekend. All sent messages to the convention.

Schlaifer Decries 'Kick Hollywood'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Asserting that Hollywood has allowed a national "pastime," called "Kick Hollywood," to develop, Charles Schlaifer, chairman of the Motion Picture Association's Advertising and Publicity Directors' Committee, told the public relations committee of the joint American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America convention at the weekend that the industry must not remain a football to be "kicked around on an international scale."

He reminded the group, one of 13 committees, that it is the task of everyone in the business to guide the thinking of the public in relation to the importance of the screen to the American way of life. Schlaifer, for the past seven months, has been formulating a public relations program in behalf of the industry.

Schlaifer told the ATA-MPTOA committee that he has discovered that it is necessary to combat the "Kick Hollywood" theme "was the launching of a militant, progressive program to guide the thinking of the opinion-makers and the public itself as well as the controlling of irresponsible mavericks in our own industry." Therefore, he added, "The Advertising Advisory Council and the Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee, both of which he is chairman, has formulated "a meticulously considered program" based on this assumption.

After reviewing for the group the revisions made in the industry's Advertising Code, and other MPA efforts to "recondition the attitude to which we ourselves have contributed," Schlaifer urged the exhibitors to cooperate in the endeavor.

Urges TOA Members To Show RC Trailer

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Howard Bonham, vice-chairman in charge of public relations of the American Red Cross, urged cooperation of all exhibitors in the showing of a three-minute appeal trailer for the annual Red Cross drive next March, in addressing the convention of the new Theatre Owners of America here on Friday.

Bonham emphasized that the Red Cross is not asking theatres to conduct a drive or to take up collections.

"We simply hope all of you will see fit to run the appeal trailer," he said.

TOA By-Laws

(*Continued from page* 1)

prohibited from serving on the TOA board, but they can become directors only by being named by regional organizations which are TOA members. The same applies to independent circuits, such as Schine Theatres of Gloversville, N. Y., a TOA member. Thus, the affiliated and large independent circuits must be members of a regional exhibitor organization in order to qualify one of their officers as a member of the TOA board.

MPTOA permitted affiliated circuit designation of board representatives. ATA did not. Wilby said the change should eliminate charges that TOA is "affiliated-circuit dominated," charges which have been made against MPTOA in the past.

Mills Warns

(*Continued from page* 1)

Consent Decree entered in 1941," Mills said.

He urged exhibitors to form a united front on the subject and to appoint an executive committee empowered to act, stating that under those conditions he would be willing to aid the exhibitors' fight if they needed him.

Mills' address was heard by Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States, and Jack Kirsch, president, who attended the Ascap session after having declined earlier invitations from Theatre Owners of America, whose conventions was the occasion for the Ascap conclave.

Myers and Kirsch told the assemblage that if a better plan for opposing the rate increase sought by Ascap is found, they will join in it with other exhibitors' organizations in the hope of achieving a united front on the question, or would welcome the support of other organizations which feel Allied's plan may be the best to be advanced.

However, Harry Brandt, president of Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, ruled out that organization as part of a united exhibitor front against Ascap, saying that ITOA's attorneys had advised that such participation by ITOA could prejudice its pending case against Ascap in New York Federal Court.

The convention's own committee on Ascap recommended that negotiations for a reduction of the proposed rates be continued and that if they fail, legislative and court action against Ascap be undertaken at once and that other measures be studied to curb Ascap power in the future.

Indicating exhibitor interest in the Ascap problem, meetings of 12 other convention committees were postponed to permit all those who wished to do so to attend the Ascap session, of which Elmer Rhoden and Roy Cooper were co-chairmen. The attendance as a result was even greater at the committee session than at the opening of the session as a whole.

Ascap 'Hottest Issue'

The Ascap issue was described by several speakers as "the hottest issue in the trade today," but observers felt that advanced admission prices rivalled it at this convention.

Mills explained to the exhibitors that he was not interested in injuring Ascap or putting it out of business but merely was making himself available to them if they needed his experience and knowledge of the situation. He is a former Texas exhibitor. He said he is no longer with Ascap because of the society's exorbitant demands made upon radio broadcasters in 1940.

In addition to warning exhibitors that little is to be gained by litigation in a contest with Ascap, Mills also said that efforts to have producers pay the performing rights music fee would be welcomed by Ascap. Those procedures are under way through Allied States, ITOA and Southern California T.O.A. anti-Ascap programs now. Mills said that Ascap would prefer to collect from a small group of producers rather than from numerous scattered exhibitors and probably could exact more, which would be added to film costs.

He also warned exhibitors that eventually they may have to pay a second music tax to Broadcast Music, Inc., which already controls 20 per cent of dance music.

Kirsch sounded the same warning saying he "understood" most of the music in 20th Century-Fox's "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" is BMI music and that theatres, presumably, could be made to pay for it.

The Allied president said, "It is time to make a stand and en[illegible]his extortion." He urged united ex[illegible]or efforts to obtain congressional amendment of the copyright law to curb Ascap's powers.

Myers revealed that Allied is pushing such an attempt regionally and that Texas, Indiana and Ohio Allied units are contacting their representatives on the subject. The Allied proposal for a copyright amendment would require the producer to obtain the performing rights license.

Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, argued that this would put popular composers such as Irving Berlin in a position in which they could negotiate for a percentage of the earnings of films which used their music, boosting the ultimate cost to the exhibitor.

Myers described two visits by Ascap representatives Herman Finkelstein and Richard Murray to Myers Washington office last spring to discus the contemplated increase in theatre rates. On the second visit, Myers said, he was presented with the British plan by which the exhibitor organization there collects the theatre music tax in return for seven and one-half per cent of the fees.

Declined Role for Allied

It was intimated, he said, that Allied could make some money by performing the same function here but he declined, he said, because he had "no wish to be strung up to the nearest lamp post."

Myers said the Ascap consent decree is "useless to exhibitors—another 'Thurman Arnold decree'—a Magna Carta for Ascap and an embarrassment to the government."

He expressed hope, however, that the decree might be reopened by the Attorney General and strengthened in view of Ascap's present exorbitant demands. Myers also said Allied is studying the most advanced of the pending suits against Ascap by exhibitors and may join in one that can be hurried to the Appeals Court for early action, if it promises exhibitor relief.

Exhibitor experiences with state anti-Ascap legislation in Nebraska and Washington was described by Robert Livingston, Lincoln, Neb., exhibitor, and John Danz of Seattle.

Livingston said that Nebraska exhibitors, under the impression that Ascap rates would remain unchanged and under threat of costly suits by copyright owners, aided in the repeal of the statute there two years ago. Danz said that smaller Washington theatres are not paying the Ascap tax but the anti-Ascap statute of that state is now before the Supreme Court on a test of its legality.

Paul Williams of Southern California Theatre Owners Association told the exhibitors that organization favored a test of Ascap's "right to do business" by court action and that amendment of the copyright laws to curb its powers also should be studied.

Celler to Present Anti-Ascap Bill

Washington, Sept. 21.—Rep. Emanuel Celler will introduce in the next session of Congress a bill to amend the copyright laws so as to require film producers to obtain the performing rights to music in their pictures at the same time they acquire recording rights to such music, Harry Brandt, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, told the Theatre Owners of America convention here.

Celler is a member of the law firm handling the pending ITOA suit against ASCAP in New York Federal Court.

Fabian Pairs Ascap Tax, Hiked Prices

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Advanced admission policies imposed by distributors were placed on the same plane as the 300 per cent increase in theatre music licensing rates by Si Fabian, New York circuit operator, in his convention speech here Friday as the retiring president of American Theatres Association.

Si Fabian

Addressing the new Theatre Owners of America, which absorbed ATA, Fabian said both advanced admissions and the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers rate increase are examples of "unilateral action" against exhibitors, taken without consultation with theatre owners.

Individual exhibitors cannot deal with or overcome problems of that kind, Fabian said, but unity among exhibitors can. He predicted that the new unity to be formed through the TOA will be the factor most appreciated by its members in the future. He urged exhibitors to join TOA and said all will be welcomed,

Propaganda Ads

(*Continued from page* 1)

Freedom Train, asserting that a newsreel should be just that as far as the purchaser is concerned. It did, however, recommend use by theatres of the official Freedom Train film in advance of the train's arrival in a community.

The committee also expressed concern over reels leased to theatres, "the profits from which are devoted to a charity selected by the producer." In such cases, it said, the charity should be given by the theatre as well as the producer. It disapproved the first film offered by the United Nations Educational and Social Committee, terming the film a re-hash of UNRRA activities.

It recommended that acceptance of community fund films and others be made a matter of local decision by exhibitors, as has been the policy since the end of the war.

TOA Formed

(*Continued from page* 1)

zation the name, Theatre Owners of America, became official and it was endowed with the right to engage in trade practice activities, a right originally denied by its founders to the 17-months old ATA, but one actively exercised for the past 27 years by MPTOA.

Those two organizations are now extinct except for the limited purpose of ATA's concluding its current action for intervention in the New York industry anti-trust suit and MPTOA's continuance of its *amicus curiae* action in the same suit. Those actions may be concluded before the end of the year, or when the Supreme Court hears the pending appeals in the suit.

Elected as the first slate of officers for TOA were the following: Ted R. Gamble, former ATA chairman, president; Fred Wehrenberg, former MPTOA president, chairman; Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, first vice-president; Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres (20th Century-Fox), treasurer; Morris Loewenstein, former MPTOA secretary, secretary of TOA; Herman Levy, former general counsel of MPTOA, same for TOA.

Sam Pinanski of M. & P. Theatres, Paramount New England affiliate, will be chairman of the finance committee, and Si Fabian, former ATA president, chairman of the executive committee.

Officers were elected for one-year terms. Headquarters of the organization will be in New York but can be transferred elsewhere by action of the board.

One Director Per Organization

Directors of the organization are to be elected by the regional or local organizations affiliated with TOA on the basis of one director for each such organization.

Trade practice activities not only were approved unanimously for TOA but, thanks to the current and coming rash of advanced admission price pictures and the proposed 300 per cent increase in theatre music taxes, the organization was immersed in them even before it came into being formally.

Among the 13 convention committees appointed to study and make reports and recommendations to the meeting, were committees on distributor relations, on advanced admission prices; on Ascap, on 16mm. competition, on television and even dealing with local checkers.

Nothing like it had been seen in ATA councils in the 17 months of its existence.

The new organization was not born in complete peace or well-greased harmony.

Behind the scenes, in committee rooms and star-chamber sessions where the real obstacles to the merger were tackled and the actual organization work was taking place, there was more than one threat to "take a walk" at various times. There was apparent dissatisfaction, particularly among MPTOA's old guard, which felt that it was being called upon to sacrifice many of its 27-year-old procedures to the will of the organization it presumably was absorbing.

On the convention floor, some of this feeling broke out with the discussion of the report of the committee on budget and finance, of which Charles Skouras was chairman. The report proposed annual dues of 10 cents per seat, per member theatre, which Skouras estimated would produce $400,000. Fred Wehrenberg, chairman of the new organization, regarded the assessment as preposterous, saying his local organization in St. Louis had a hard time collecting two cents a seat. Wehrenberg threatened to walk out of the convention and the new organization if the plan was adopted.

Stresses Large Budget Need

E. V. Richards of New Orleans then lectured the convention in blunt language on its whole approach to the new organization, contending that a large budget was essential to the right kind of organization and asserting that the men present, big and little, could afford such an organization.

Richards said American Theatres Association had collected $75,000 and had spent $150,000 in its brief span and added that both ATA and MPTOA had come up to the merger "looking either to bankruptcy or receivership, financially, mentally and morally."

TOA Into Field of Public Relations

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—A broad program of public relations with a full-time director in charge was recommended as an undertaking for Theatre Owners of America by the convention committee in charge here.

The program would emphasize the role of the theatre in the industry as well as in community life. It recognized the plan of the Motion Picture Association Advertising and Publicity Directors Committee, commended it and proposed that the TOA program be coordinated with it. Claude Lee of Paramount presented the report.

The committee on campaigns and charities, of which Morris Loewenstein was chairman, recommended appointment of a permanent committee to pass upon requests made for theatre aid and urged continuance of exhibitor cooperation for approved campaigns and individual theatre decisions on others.

Support of MPTOA Name Was Lacking

Washington, Sept. 21.—Fight for retention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America name for the new organization formed here on Friday was abandoned by Morris Loewenstein, leader of the movement, when it was apparent that there was insufficient support to carry the proposal.

The new name, Theatre Owners of America, was a part of the constitution which was approved without protest by the whole convention. Likewise, there was no opposition to the inclusion of trade practices in the new organization's sphere.

Seek Clearance on Theatre Construction

Washington, Sept. 21.—Appointment of a committee to confer with the Federal Housing Expediter in an effort to obtain elimination of the bans on theatre remodelling and new construction was recommended to Theatre Owners of America by its convention committee on legislation.

Also recommended was the appointment of a permanent legislative committee for TOA.

Upped Prices

(*Continued from page* 1)

of their normal 40 or 50 cents is unfair and results in a loss of business for a week preceding and several weeks following an advanced admission price picture's run.

The convention committee, chairmaned by Si Fabian, reported that eight to 10 such pictures are planned for a relatively short period of time.

Some exhibitors felt that the market will absorb some of them if they are of outstanding quality but it will not absorb those which merely are being played on that policy, regardless of quality, to redeem a high cost of production. Others argued that even the quality picture at advanced prices hurts the business by taking it farther away from its function as mass entertainment and its appeal to all ages.

Others also regard it as "inflationary" and counter to the best interests of the country at this time.

The convention rejected some exhibitor urgings that the convention adopt a resolution calling upon exhibitors to refuse to play such attractions.

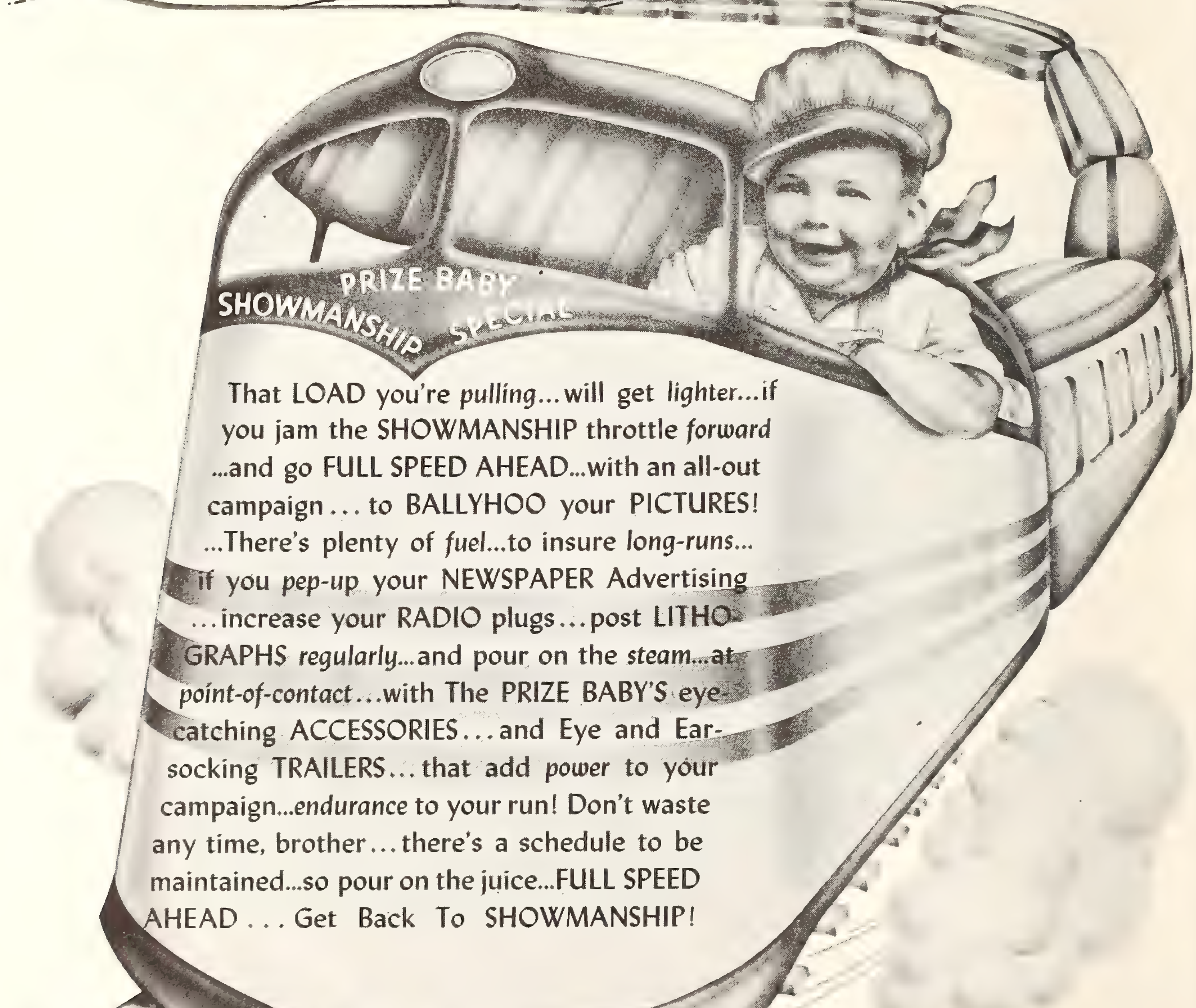
The committee consulted with Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists president, who was a convention visitor, before making its recommendations. Sears, said Fabian, "put up a good case for the policy," contending that what the market will absorb is justified.

fly
"the Los Angeles"
United's DC-6 Mainliner 300
Luxury Flight
Leave New York 12 noon
Arrive Los Angeles 8:10 p.m.
UNITED AIR LINES
Airlines Terminal, 80 E. 42nd St. or
Pennsylvania Hotel or 1 Wall St.
Call Murray Hill 2-7300
or an authorized travel agent

Get Back to

SHOWMANSHIP

FULL SPEED AHEAD!



That LOAD you're *pulling*... will get *lighter*... if you jam the SHOWMANSHIP throttle *forward* ...and go FULL SPEED AHEAD...with an all-out campaign... to BALLYHOO your PICTURES! ...There's plenty of *fuel*...to insure *long-runs*... if you *pep-up* your NEWSPAPER Advertising ...increase your RADIO plugs...post LITHOGRAPHS *regularly*...and pour on the *steam*...at *point-of-contact*...with The PRIZE BABY'S eye-catching ACCESSORIES... and Eye and Ear-socking TRAILERS... that add *power* to your campaign...*endurance* to your run! Don't waste any time, brother... there's a schedule to be maintained...so pour on the juice...FULL SPEED AHEAD... Get Back To SHOWMANSHIP!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

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MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
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FILM
NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate
Concise
and
Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 59 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1947 TEN CENTS

A May Talk Deal for Buy Of RKO Films

Seeks to Offset Product Dearth; Wants Theatres

United Artists, faced with a product shortage next winter due to inability of its independent producers to start new production while banks continue their moratorium on the financing of independents, may negotiate with RKO for outright purchase of a number of completed pictures from their company.

The plans are in a completely nebulous state even though they were discussed tentatively at a meeting of

(*Continued on page* 16)

May Delay Decree Arguments to Dec.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22. — Dates for arguments on the three major industry trust cases before the Supreme Court continues to be pushed back, with court officials now saying that the Schine and Griffith cases will not be heard before December at the earliest.

If this schedule is followed, the New York anti-trust decree case might come up for argument late in December or early next year. They state, however, that the records in all three cases are voluminous and are still being printed—and that it is well to bear in mind that court officials now have revised several times their estimates as to when the cases will be heard, putting them further off each time.

Lyceum Suit Settled By Berger and Maco

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 22.—The $1,350,000 anti-trust suit filed by the Duluth Theatre Corp. and Lyceum Building Corp. of Duluth, against Minnesota Amusement Co. and eight distributors, charging a product

(*Continued on page* 16)

Consider Requests To Cut Clearance

Cleveland, Sept. 22.—Columbia will give consideration to subsequent-run de luxe theatres' requests for a clearance reduction to 21 days from the long established 35 days for those theatres, Sam Galanty, district manager, asserted when asked what his company's attitude would be in such a set-up here, as originally proposed by Andy W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox general sales manager.

N. Y. Para. Theatre Plans Video Shows

The Paramount Theatre, New York, soon will inaugurate experimental television shows to obtain audience reaction to theatre television at first-hand, Paul Raibourn, in charge of Paramount's television activities, told the Theatre Owners of America convention committee on television, meeting in Washington last week.

Raibourn said the Paramount Theatre television programs will employ the system of photographing televised events, developing the film and projecting it on the theatre screen. This system has been under study by Du Mont Television, which is associated with Paramount, for some time and,

(*Continued on page* 15)

Discord Averted by Compromise on TOA Directors

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—A compromise providing for the election of three directors-at-large by the new Theatre Owners of America's board of directors, under which affiliated circuits and large unaffiliated circuit members can, and undoubtedly will, obtain representation on the board, was adopted by the TOA convention here late Saturday.

The compromise removed the sting, insofar as Loew's, RKO, the Schine circuit and other TOA members similarly situated were concerned, from the amendment to the by-laws won by Paramount partner, R. B. Wilby on Friday, which eliminated the circuits' right to designate their own directors for the board—two for affiliated circuits, and one for large independent circuits.

As a result of the change in by-

(*Continued on page* 15)

Urges Stand By All ASCAP Licensees

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—If the taxing powers of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers are to be restricted by law, there should be not only unity among ex-

(*Continued on page* 16)

Tesma-Tedpa Convention Gets Underway Tomorrow

(Map of Convention Exhibits Appears on Page 10)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22. — Some 1,000 representatives of various branches of the theatre equipment field will gather at the Shoreham Hotel, here, during the next several days for the second joint conventions of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, which will open Wednesday and continue through next Monday. In terms of both attendance and exhibits, the six-day event promises to be the largest of its kind in the history of the theatre equipment industry.

The first joint convention of the organizations was held in November of last year in Toledo. In the fall of 1945 the two associations held their first postwar conventions separately in Chicago. The results of the 1946 affair pointed to continuance thereafter of joint annual trade shows and meetings.

Since TESMA was revived two years ago its membership has increased about 550 per cent. It now has 100 members, an increase of 20 since last year's joint convention. Some 66 theatre equipment dealer

(*Continued on page 9, column* 1)

TOA Finance Program Aims For $400,000

Scale of Dues Deferred For Assessment Plan

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—A special assessment of 10 cents per seat for those able to pay was approved as a fund-raising compromise to finance the organizing of Theatre Owners of America in the closing hours of the TOA convention here last weekend.

Charles Skouras, TOA treasurer, estimated that the levy would produce $400,000. He said the new organization's membership has an aggregate 5,000,000 theatre seats and of that number, 4,000,000 could afford to pay the assessment.

The agreement was reached after bitter opposition greeted the original plan to establish membership dues at 10 cents per seat per year. The opposition forced postponement of the discussion of dues on the convention

(*Continued on page* 15)

TOA to Help Win Greater Attendance

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—A committee report which received scant notice in the closing hours of the Theatre Owners of America convention here at the weekend, but which could be of considerable benefit to the industry at large in these days of declining earnings here and abroad, was one on means of bringing about increased theatre attendance.

The report, read by Walter Reade, Jr., committee chairman, recommended the appointment of a permanent

(*Continued on page* 15)

In This Issue

"The Foxes of Harrow" is reviewed on page 16. Key city grosses are reported on page 8.

Special TESMA-TEDPA Section, Pages 9-14

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

SIGN OF THE TIMES: The Bayer Company this week opened the world's largest plant for the manufacture of aspirin.

▽

So help us, Elizabeth P. Kollmers, head nurse at the clinic of the United Nations, at Lake Success, New York, has a United Nations cocktail, composed of two aspirins, a teaspoon of sodium bicarbonate and some spirits of ammonia. It's the bellowing delegates' favorite concoction.

▽

Les Markoski staged an extra special matinee for little tots at his New Britain, Connecticut, Music Box Theatre last Saturday afternoon, dishing up Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw." Free candy was another inducement.

▽

RCA has a new gadget, called Ultrafax, a combination of radio and television which is essentially a radio mail system, capable of transmitting the equivalent of 40 tons of airmail, Coast-to-Coast, in a single day; a 500-page book in half a minute, and a fat Sunday Metropolitan newspaper, with comics, in one minute—all traveling at the rate of 186,000 miles a second!

▽

Hollywood cowboy Gene Autry is not only in the motion picture and rodeo business, but also collects plenty from Autry-sponsored cap-pistols, cowboy suits, comic books, hair oil, and many other products, besides owning the Phoenix Gazette, *three California radio stations, KOPO, KPNO and KOWL, five ranches, a string of Texas motion picture theatres, a flying school, a string of gas stations, a line of grocery stores, a music publishing company, loads of Western real estate, and what not.*

▽

Latest queer request for space in the columns of business papers, including those of *Motion Picture Daily,* is one from the American Feline Society, in behalf of "National Cat Week," Nov. 2-8!

Incidentally, it appears that the many burdensome and complex film industry problems of the day are about to be laid aside for "Cat Week," for we have the word of Robert Kendell, president of the Society, that "the motion picture industry is going all out for 'Cat Week' this year," adding: "Should you have any additional ideas in this connection, please contact us immediately." We have, but they're not printable.

▽

Television *has* arrived. Philco television station WPTZ in Philadelphia this week carried the first known father-and-son bubble-gum contest!

▽

Tip to the Underworld: Altec Service Corp. is installing hidden sound recorders in the interrogation rooms of the FBI in Washington. And if youse guys "sing," they gotcha "song" on a "platter."

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic distribution chief; EDWARD L. WALTON, assistant general sales manager; JAMES V. O'GARA, Eastern division manager, and WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Southern division manager, have returned to the home office from sales trips.

•

BERNARD G. KRANZE, assistant general sales manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal-International, left New York yesterday for the Warner theatre zones in Cleveland and Washington.

•

SIR ALEXANDER KING, Scottish exhibitor, his wife and two daughters, will sail from England Friday on the *SS Queen Elizabeth* for New York, having changed their original plans to sail last weekend.

•

EDDIE RUBEN, head of Welworth circuit, has been named co-chairman of the national corporations division of the Minneapolis Community Chest campaign.

•

ELIZABETH BACON, formerly with Screen Guild and 20th Century-Fox, has taken over the Eagle-Lion booking office in New Orleans.

•

GEORGE MCCLURE, New Zealand manager for Warners, arrived here yesterday for talks with home office executives.

•

PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, is at the studio from New York for conferences.

•

JEFFREY BERNERD, Allied Artists producer, has returned to the studio from New York.

•

LEO SCHEXNAYDER, Republic branch manager in New Orleans, has returned to that city from Mobile.

•

MELVIN EDELSTEIN, RKO Radio office manager in Puerto Rico, and MRS. EDELSTEIN are parents of a daughter.

•

STEPHEN SLESINGER, producer, left New York yesterday by plane for the Coast.

•

SID KAIN of the Warner field staff left here last night for Pennsylvania.

•

GENE AUTRY is due in town this evening from the Coast by plane.

SCOTT R. DUNLAP, executive assistant to STEVE BROIDY, Allied Artists-Monogram president, will leave the Coast studio Friday en route to New York.

•

ADRIAN REMAUGE, managing director of Pathe Cinema, and GEORGES DESCOURS, board chairman of the Societe des Studios Francais, are en route to Hollywood from New York.

•

EDDIE ALBERT will leave Hollywood Wednesday for Chicago and New York for a two-week business trip regarding his 16mm. film company.

•

HENRY BALK, Monogram salesman in Los Angeles, has resigned to join Majestic Poster Press in San Francisco.

•

RICHARD F. WALSH, president of IATSE, is in Atlantic City at conferences and is due back here on Thursday.

•

PHIL GERSH, head of Loew's retirement plan department here, and MRS. GERSH have become parents of a daughter.

•

JAMES CLEMENS, manager of the Circle Theatre, Nevada, Ia., has joined the staff of the RKO Brandeis, Omaha.

•

JIMMY BRIANT, New Orleans branch manager for M-G-M, has been appointed chairman of the Community Chest there.

•

DEEMS TAYLOR, board chairman of Ascap, returned to New York yesterday from the Coast.

•

ARTHUR HORNBLOW, JR., M-G-M producer, is due here tomorrow from Europe on the *SS Queen Mary.*

•

ARTHUR FREED, M-G-M producer, is expected in town today from the Coast.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, has returned to his New Orleans headquarters from the Coast.

•

JACK ESSICK of the Scoville, Essick and Reif Circuit, Cleveland, and MRS. ESSICK, are in Atlantic City.

•

FRANK OLAH, Albany, La., exhibitor, is recuperating from an appendectomy.

Paul McNutt Meets Ad - Publicity Heads

Paul V. McNutt, appointed last week to represent the Motion Picture Association and the Association of Motion Picture Producers at the forthcoming hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington, was introduced to advertising-publicity directors of the film companies at a meeting at the MPA office here yesterday. The industry's promotion activities were discussed informally.

SGP Seeks Removal Of Ban on 'Cross'

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—Jack Cartwright, director of public relations for Screen Guild Productions, flew to New York tonight en route to Richmond where he will undertake to secure the lifting of a censors' ban on its production, "The Burning Cross." If he fails to persuade the board to reverse its finding, Cartwright will take the case to the courts.

The move by Cartwright follows a meeting of Screens Guild executives.

Johnston on Job, but Still Under Treatment

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston returned to his desk today for a few hours, after three weeks in the hospital and at home undergoing treatment for bursitis.

Aides said Johnston would try to come in every day for a few hours, but emphasized that he is still getting treatments and is still subject to frequent pains. They would not estimate when he might be ready for a more active role such as the projected trip to England for talks on the British tax on U. S. films.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE • VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
COOL ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

DORE SCHARY presents
ROBERT YOUNG • ROBERT MITCHUM • ROBERT RYAN
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
SCIENTIFICALLY AIR CONDITIONED
DOORS OPEN 9:30 A. M.
RIVOLI
B'WAY & 49th ST.
POPULAR PRICES CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing!
M-G-M's
'CYNTHIA'
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
GEORGE MURPHY
MARY ASTOR
IN PERSON
JOHN CALVERT
CALEB PETERSON
Extra!
PAUL REGAN
Plus OTHERS

BING CROSBY
JOAN CAULFIELD
BARRY FITZGERALD
in "Welcome Stranger"
A Paramount Picture
In Person!
CARMEN CAVALLARO
And His Orchestra
BOB ALLEN and LESLIE LONG
RAUL & EVA REYES
NIP NELSON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
HENRY FONDA • BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE • ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT
RELEASED BY RKO RADIO

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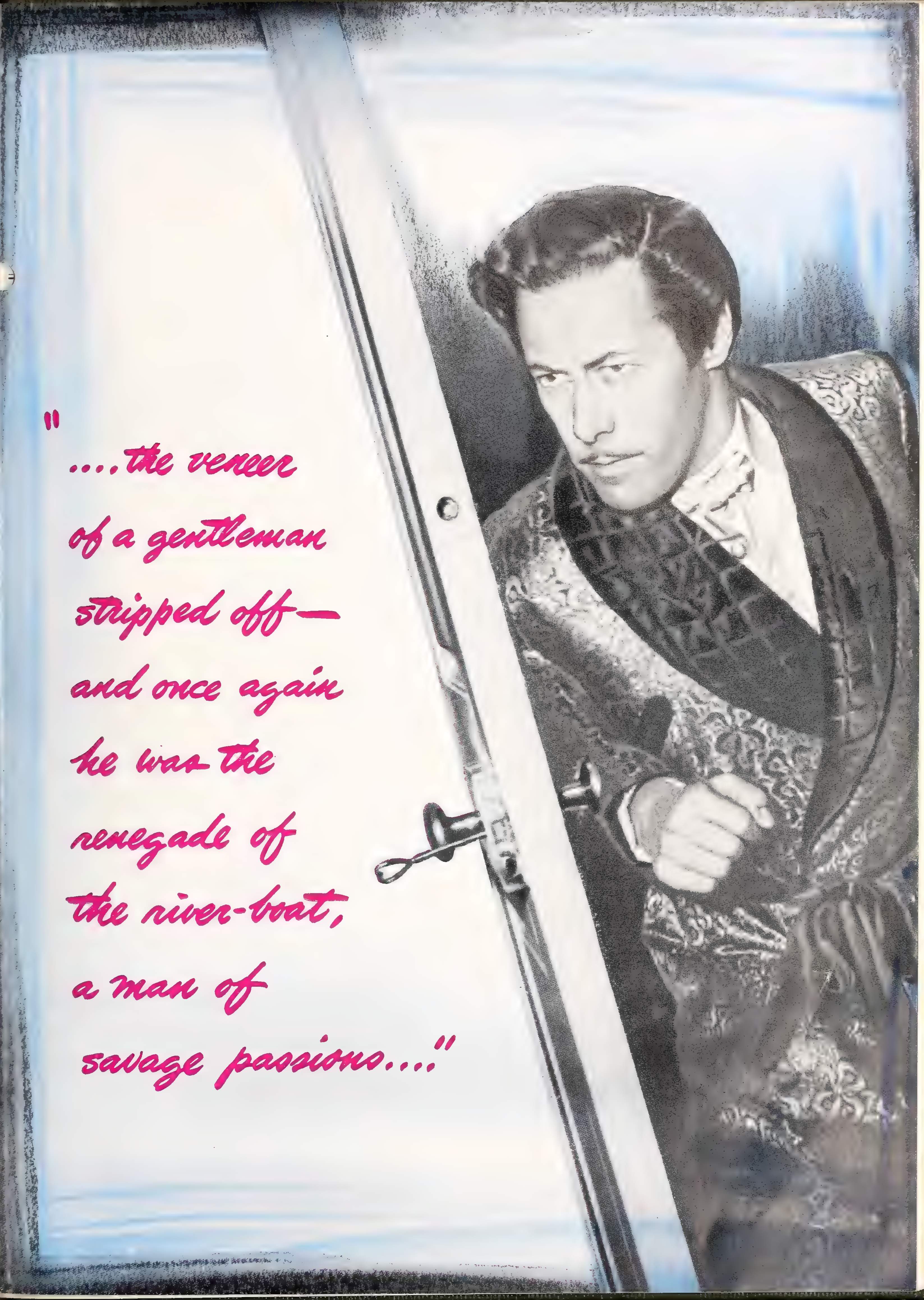
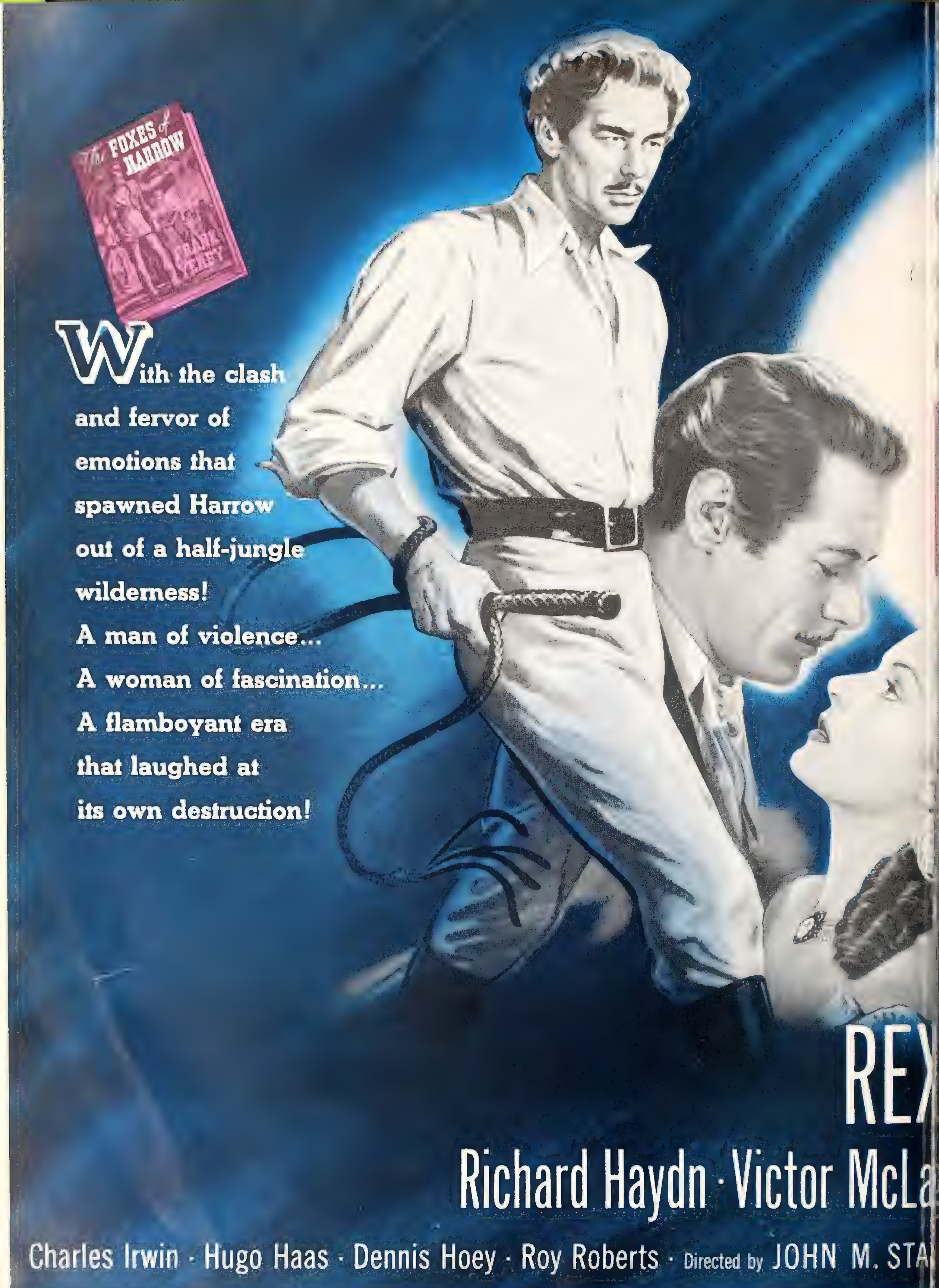

"....the veneer
of a gentleman
stripped off—
and once again
he was the
renegade of
the river-boat,
a man of
savage passions...!"


The FOXES of HARROW
With the clash
and fervor of
emotions that
spawned Harrow
out of a half-jungle
wilderness!
A man of violence...
A woman of fascination...
A flamboyant era
that laughed at
its own destruction!
REX
Richard Haydn · Victor McLa
Charles Irwin · Hugo Haas · Dennis Hoey · Roy Roberts · Directed by JOHN M. STA

The Foxes of Harrow

HARRISON · MAUREEN O'HARA

n · Vanessa Brown · Patricia Medina · Gene Lockhart

oduced by WILLIAM A. BACHER · Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock · Based on the Novel by Frank Yerby

In the tradition of

20th CENTURY-FOX

Boxoffice Best-Sellers

NIGHTMARE ALLEY

TYRONE POWER IN "NIGHTMARE ALLEY" with JOAN BLONDELL • COLEEN GRAY • HELEN WALKER • Taylor Holmes Mike Mazurki • Ian Keith • Directed by EDMUND GOULDING • Produced by GEORGE JESSEL • Screen Play by Jules Furthman • Based on the Novel by William Lindsay Gresham • Director of Photography—Lee Garmes, A. S. C.

DAISY KENYON

JOAN CRAWFORD • DANA ANDREWS • HENRY FONDA in "DAISY KENYON" with Ruth Warrick • Peggy Ann Garner Martha Stewart • Connie Marshall • Nicholas Joy • Robert Karnes • Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER Screen Play by David Hertz • Based on the Novel by Elizabeth Janeway

THE SNAKE PIT

OLIVIA DE HAVILAND and MARK STEVENS in "THE SNAKE PIT" • Directed by ANATOLE LITVAK • Produced by ROBERT BASSLER • From the Novel by Mary Jane Ward

FOREVER AMBER

Darryl F. Zanuck presents "FOREVER AMBER" • Color by TECHNICOLOR starring LINDA DARNELL • CORNEL WILDE RICHARD GREENE and GEORGE SANDERS with GLENN LANGAN • RICHARD HAYDN • JESSICA TANDY • ANNE REVERE John Russell • Jane Ball • Robert Coote • Leo G. Carroll • Natalie Draper • Directed by OTTO PREMINGER • Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG • From the Novel by KATHLEEN WINSOR • Screen Play by Philip Dunne and Ring Lardner, Jr. Adaptation by Jerome Cady

GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT

Darryl F. Zanuck presents GREGORY PECK • DOROTHY McGUIRE • JOHN GARFIELD in Laura Z. Hobson's "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT" • Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK • Screen Play by MOSS HART • Directed by ELIA KAZAN

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE

Darryl F. Zanuck presents "CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE" • Color by TECHNICOLOR • Starring TYRONE POWER with JEAN PETERS • CESAR ROMERO • JOHN SUTTON • LEE J. COBB • Antonio Moreno • Thomas Gomez • Alan Mowbray Barbara Lawrence • George Zucco • Roy Roberts • Marc Lawrence • Directed by HENRY KING • Produced by LAMAR TROTTI • Screen Play by Lamar Trotti • From the Novel by Samuel Shellabarger

Foreign Films Click At Skouras Houses

Skouras Theatres, here is now booking foreign films along with its usual Hollywood programs, as standard fare for its entire circuit of 62 houses in the Metropolitan area.

The first major showing will be with "A Cage of Nightingales," a French effort. So that the public will not feel that it is taking too great a risk the first showing will be co-featured with a Hollywood picture, "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now."

Since Skouras, in addition to some first-runs, contains many neighborhood theatres in Manhattan, Queens, the Bronx, New Jersey, and in suburban Long Island, Westchester and Rockland counties, this is considered by the company to be something of a "revolutionary step."

Already shown as a test was "The King's Jester," Italian, and also booked are "Open City" and "The Well-Digger's Daughter," French and Italian, respectively.

George P. Skouras, president, said: "We are convinced that the American public likes the best of foreign-language films, and that they will like them more. We frankly do not consider what we are doing is experimental. We are way past that stage. I regret that we did not begin to exhibit these foreign-language films sooner, and for two reasons: First is that as showmen we have a natural desire to exhibit the best as fast as they are available. The second is that we would have been better businessmen had we done so.

"Everyone considered our step a risk at the beginning, but after making the proper research we were certain it was wise."

Skouras explained that the only drawback is in the very beginning—to get people who never have seen a foreign-language film to enter the theatre, because they imagine they will not like them. But his executives have been "astounded" by the public reaction so far, obtained through comment cards which thousands of patrons have been filling out.

"The returns are favorable in above 95 per cent of the answers," he said. "But what is more significant is the large proportion of those who see the picture who are willing to go to the trouble of filling out the cards. Obviously the public wants to see more, and takes this means of getting it."

"The star system has been one which the American public has liked, but not having expensive stars, with certain types of characterizations expected of them, gives the Continental producer the freedom to choose among many fine actors and actresses, and at amazingly less expense," said Skouras.

UA Defies Boxing Guild

Replying to a request for immediate withdrawal of Enterprise's "Body and Soul" from distribution, which was issued by the Boxing Managers Guild, here, Gradwell L. Sears, president of United Artists, which is distributing the picture, wrote to Charles Johnston of the Guild, in part, as follows: "Our answer . . . is a vehement 'no.' 'Body and Soul' was not made to vilify you or your profession. It was not intended as an expose, but rather as a faithful picture of a great sport, showing, as it should, its grimy as well as its glorious side."

Rank Canadian Suits In Further Tangle

TORONTO, Sept. 22.—The contract dispute between Empire-Universal Films and J. Arthur Rank companies in the Ontario court has taken a fresh turn in the granting of a leave to appeal to three defendants from a previous appeal dismissal involving an order for service of writs outside of the Ontario jurisdiction.

In the latest hearing, Justice McRuer ruled in favor of a motion by the Rank Organization, Inc., General Cinema Finance Corp. and Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., for leave to appeal although the application had previously been dismissed. This means that the right of the plaintiff to serve Ontario writs against the three defendants in the United States or England will yet be argued at Toronto. Meanwhile, Empire-Universal and United World Pictures of Canada have entered separate suits at New York against a group of Arthur Rank companies in the U. S.

Minor Storm Damage To N. O. Film Row

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 22.—Although the severe hurricane which ripped across Florida and the Gulf of Mexico into the Gulf states inflicted no great damage on local theatres or exchanges, the RKO Radio exchange, here, was seriously menaced when the storage garage directly adjoining the main building was completely demolished. When the brick building collapsed under the storm's fury several automobiles, owned by film row employes, were damaged.

All exchanges were closed for the greater part of last Friday, the day the hurricane hit here. Downtown theatres, blacked out during the storm, resumed operations late in the afternoon, but suburban houses remained closed all day. Theatre and exchange operations were back in full swing by Saturday.

New RCA Equipment Supplied WB News

CAMDEN, N. J., Sept. 22.—RCA film recording equipment of both portable and studio types will be used by the new Warner Pathe News, Barton Kreuzer, manager of RCA's film recording activities, here, reports. The new equipment will supplement that which Warners fell heir to when it took over RKO Pathe News.

Negotiations recently completed with Nathan Levinson, sound director of Warners, provide for equipping additional newsreel cameras with RCA's lightweight single-film recording systems, Kreuzer said.

New Evelove Appointee

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22. — Virginia Yates has been appointed by Alex Evelove, Warner studio publicity director, to the post of national magazine editor, succeeding Peter Cardozo, who has joined the writing department.

Syndicate WB Clips

Scenes from Warner Pathe News' exclusive clips on the Government's peacetime atomic energy development at Los Alamos, N. M., are being syndicated by three national photo services, AP, INS and Acme, with a credit line to the Warner reel.

Producers Accept Bid To AFL Strike Parley

Hollywood, Sept. 22.—Producers will attend the AFL-called strike settlement meeting in San Francisco on Oct. 4, the producers labor committee today notified AFL president William Green in a telegraphed reply to his invitation. Signed by Charles Boren, the wire reiterates the willingness of the committee to attend any meeting at which the presence of all international presidents concerned in the studio jurisdictional dispute is assured.

Bell and Howell in Foreign Expansion

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Bell and Howell, manufacturer of motion picture equipment, has established an international division, which will handle overseas distribution and sales for other manufacturers of photographic equipment, in addition to Bell and Howell cameras, projectors and accessories.

E. L. Schimmel, export manager, who will head the new division, states that contracts for exclusive export rights have been signed with the Elwood Pattern Manufacturing Co., Indianapolis, manufacturer of photo enlargers and accessories; Busch Precision Camera Corp., Chicago, manufacturer of cameras; Webster Industries, Inc., Rochester, manufacturer of 35mm. cameras, and the Radiant Manufacturing Corp., Chicago, manufacturer of motion picture screens. Schimmel says that other exclusive export contracts are in negotiation now.

Support Royal Show

Full support of the American industry has been pledged for the Second Royal Command Performance which will be held at the Odeon Theatre in London Nov. 25, Eric Johnston, president of Motion Picture Association, announced through the New York office yesterday. An American film will be selected for this year's performance. The King, Queen, Princess Margaret Rose and possibly Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip are scheduled to attend the performance, to be sponsored by the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund for an English charity. In addition to all major film companies which are members of the MPA, independents have been asked to enter their features.

Rankin Will Miss Red Probe Sessions

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Rep. John Rankin of Mississippi, one of the Hollywood film colony's most ardent critics, may not be able to attend some of the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities on Communism in Hollywood.

Rankin, a member of the committee, had been expected to attend the hearings, scheduled to begin next Monday, but a postponement of the hearings until October 20, has changed his plans. He is a candidate for the seat of the late Senator Bilbo, and Mississippi's run-off election will be held on Nov. 4. Rankin will undoubtedly have to spend much time campaigning at home.

One rumor around Capitol Hill held that a desire to run the hearings without Rankin was a big factor in Chairman Thomas' decision to postpone the opening date.

Committee spokesmen said that every possible step would be taken to avoid unfavorable publicity and to prevent the hearings from "getting out of hand like the Howard Hughes Senate investigation did."

District No. 14, 'IA' Holds Annual Meet

ATLANTIC CITY, Sept. 22.—District No. 14 of the IATSE, comprising 22 locals in New Jersey, held its annual convention here yesterday, preceding the convention of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor.

Present at the district meeting were Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IA; William P. Raoul, general secretary-treasurer, and James J. Brennan, international vice-president. Thomas V. Green is secretary of the district.

Many delegates to the district convention remained to attend the federation convention, which will run through Thursday.

SAG in Taft Law Ballot

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 22.—In compliance with the Taft-Hartley law, the Screen Actors Guild has mailed to its membership returnable ballots on which members may indicate their desire to retain the Guild shop.

'IA' Local To Meet

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—Film Exchange Employes Local No. F-45, IATSE, will hold a general meeting here on Oct. 7 in the 'IA' meeting rooms, according to Jack Eckhart, president.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
NEW YORK
TRADE SHOWING OF
"DICK TRACY MEETS GRUESOME"
THURSDAY, SEPT. 25, at 2:30 P. M.
RKO Projection Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

NJ Owners Keep Bar On Trade Actions

Trenton, N. J., Sept. 22.—Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners will continue as the meeting ground for all exhibitors in this state for the consideration of all matters except trade practices, it was voted unanimously today by independent exhibitors and representatives of major circuits at a meeting here today of the Federation.

Trustees hitherto elected are to continue to carry out all resolutions adopted by the Federation, with George Gold as chairman of the board.

Among subjects discussed today was the pending suit to have the sales tax declared unconstitutional. The Federation also agreed to continue its offer to aid theatre firms in communities in the fourth class group which may be faced with the threat of a sales tax. The organization further resolved to be on guard for any proposed resolution which would enlarge the scope of the sales tax law.

Next meeting of the Federation will be held here Oct. 8.

ATOI Annual Meet Set for Nov. 18-20

Indianapolis, Sept. 22.—The annual fall convention of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana has been scheduled for Nov. 18-20 at the Hotel Antlers, Indianapolis. General problems facing exhibitors will be discussed.

Among questions slated to be taken up are advanced admission prices, the lessening of non-theatrical competition, and flat rental conversion of percentage pictures. Also to be discussed by the showmen are steps to be taken against diminished business.

Four Ohio Runs in Deal

Cincinnati, Sept. 22.—Montgomery Amusement Co., Pela Theatres Co. and Mont Ridge, Inc., operators of the Mont Vista and Ridge theatres in Pleasant Ridge, the Emery at Reading, and the Shard at Lockland, of which Mrs. Lily M. Shard is president and Ralph Kinsler is secretary-treasurer, have leased the Monte Vista, Ridge and Emery and have arranged a management contract for the Shard, to Maurice White and Nicholas G. Shafer of Cincinnati. White and Shafer are operators of 24 other theatres in Greater Cincinnati.

Robins, Banker, in Films

Library Films, Inc., has been formed to service 16mm. film rental libraries, educational and religious institutions and theatrical roadshowmen. It has acquired the library formerly owned by Walter O. Gutlohn, Inc., and is headed by Paul N. Robins. He has been active in financial circles for many years and was a vice-president of Manufacturer's Trust.

Para. Unit Registers

Albany, N. Y., Sept. 22.—California Theatre Realty Co. of San Francisco, Paramount affiliate, has recorded a certificate for a New York office to operate theatres. Leonard H. Goldenson is president and Clinton Combes is the attorney.

Industry Represented At LaGuardia Rites

The motion picture industry was widely represented yesterday at funeral rites for Fiorello H. LaGuardia, former mayor of New York City and an industry friend, who died Saturday at his home in Riverdale. Services were held at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Harry Carey Rites On Coast Tomorrow

Hollywood, Sept. 22.—Funeral services for Harry Carey, 69, veteran actor who appeared in more than 300 films, will be held at the Field Photo Memorial Farm, here, on Wednesday. Interment will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Carey died Sunday afternoon.

Born in New York on Jan. 16, 1878, the son of Judge and Ella Carey, he came West in 1910 after having studied law at New York University. He signed originally as an actor with the old Biograph organization, whose rising stars included Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Lionel Barrymore, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Mabel Normand and others. One of the most famous of screen cowboys, Carey in later years was most frequently cast in character parts. His early experience came from the legitimate stage to which he returned from time to time.

Among the pictures in which he appeared were "Trader Horn," "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," "Shepherd of the Hills," "Barbary Coast," "Valiant Is the Word for Carrie" and "Air Force." In private life he was a rancher.

Survivors include the widow, a son, Harry, Jr., and a daughter, Mrs. Ella Carey Taylor.

Radio Set Production Increased in August

Washington, Sept. 22.—Production of radio and television sets picked up in August after an early summer slump, to total 1,265,835 sets. Television set production totaled 12,283, a new 1947 record.

Production during the first eight months of the year was 11,031,935 sets of all types, including 68,669 for television sets.

Gross, Peppiatt Tribute

Philadelphia, Sept. 22.—The Motion Picture Associates held special memorial services yesterday at the Broadwood Hotel here and presented a plaque in memory of Sam Gross and C. E. Peppiatt, 20th Century-Fox film executives killed in a plane crash early in the summer. Judge Harry E. Kalodner and Judge Joseph Sloane delivered tributes.

All America Distribution

All America Pictures and All American News, formery distributed by Dezel Roadshows and Dezel Productions in Detroit, Cincinnati and Cleveland territories, will hereafter be handled out of exchanges owned and operated by All America in those cities.

Key City Grosses

Following are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by Motion Picture Daily *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

The weather was unusually hot and humid. Way out in front was "Welcome Stranger." Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 23-26:

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M-reissue)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $8,000)
LAW OF THE CANYON (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **THE CRIMSON KEY (20th-Fox).** Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)
THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000)
RED STALLION (EL)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,500)
SINGAPORE (U-I)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)
SONG OF THE THIN MAN (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $7,800. (Average: $10,000)
THAT'S MY GAL (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (39c-49c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **RAIDERS OF RED ROCK (E-L).** Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

Top grosser among new pictures was "The Perils of Pauline" at the Imperial Theatre, followed by a repeater, "Gone With the Wind," in its third week at Loew's Theatre. Chief opposition came from major footbal and the "Skating Vanities" at Maple Leaf Gardens. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 26:

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S (2,074) (20c-35c-45c-50c-60c-78c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $14,200)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $7,400)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—TIVOLI (1,434) (20c-25c-35c-45c-60c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $9,200)
THE LAUGHING LADY (EL) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—CAPITOL (1,115) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $4,800)
THE LAUGHING LADY (EL) and SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE (RKO Radio)—VICTORIA (1,240) (15c-25c-35c-50c) 6 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,300)
THE PERILS OF PAULINE (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $17,600. (Average: $14,600)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,761) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $11,600)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (20c-35c-45c-60c-90c) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $14,400. (Average: $14,900)

BALTIMORE

With a bumper crop of holdovers in town, business is uneven. In its second week, "Crossfire" is out in front. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 25:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)
DESERT FURY (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c, 54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,000)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,750)
LAST OF THE REDMEN (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $17,500)
LURED (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)
RED STALLION (EL)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c) 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)
STORM IN THE TEACUP (Peerless)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,750)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (29c-37c-50c-58c) 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,500)

ATLANTA

Business generally registered some improvement. The weather was cool. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 24:

CRY WOLF (WB)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (2t0h-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,700)
MERTON OF THE MOVIES (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)
RED STALLION (EL)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,900)
THE TROUBLE WITH WOMEN (Para.) and ADVENTURE ISLAND (Para.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-37c). Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,500)

Panel of 50 Experts At SMPE Conclave

A panel of more than 50, covering all phases of theatre design, construction, equipment and maintenance, is being assembled to participate in the open forum that will occupy a major portion of the theatre engineering conference sessions of the 62nd semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers on Oct. 20-24, at the Hotel Pennsylvania here.

Details of the panel were announced yesterday by James Frank Jr., chairman of the local arrangements committee, at a luncheon of the convention's steering group in the Hotel Pennsylvania. Each clinical session will have a group of experts seated at a front table, with others distributed throughout the audience, to answer questions and to amplify any points on which additional information is required.

C. R. Keith, editorial vice-president of the society, reported that more than 40 papers already have been filed for the convention. All will be brief, so that two-thirds of the time can be devoted to open discussion. Exhibit manager Robert T. Kenworthy reported that the number of firms signed up for booth space has increased to 30.

Other speakers at yesterday's luncheon included: Earl I. Sponable, SMPE executive vice-president; W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president; Lester B. Isaac, luncheon and banquet chairman; Leonard Satz, chairman of the theatre engineering conference papers committee, and Boyce Nemec, executive secretary. Also at the luncheon were: Herbert Barnett, Henry Anderson, Helen M. Stote, Charles S. Perkins, Leonard Bidwell and Don Gillette.

Head Equipment Dealers to Meet

Ray Colvin
TEDPA President

Oscar Neu
TESMA President

Tesma-Tedpa

(*Continued from page* 1)

companies have membership in TEDPA. In addition to the several representatives each company will have at the conventions, several hundred theatre owners, managers, maintenance men, projectionists, architects, film exchange managers and personnel are expected to visit the trade show, as are representatives of all Government agencies which are interested in the making and handling of motion pictures.

On Saturday an open forum meeting will be held in the Blue Room of the Shoreham. This will be attended by manufacturers, theatre supply dealers and all others interested in the problems and developments of the organizations. E. Allan Williford, past president of TESMA and vice-president of General Aniline and Film Corp., will serve as forum moderator. Speakers will include: J. H. Van Deventer, director of information of the Committee for Economic Development of the U. S. Government, who will discuss "Stabilization for American Business and How It Affects the Theatre Industry"; Robert Easterly of the Stran Steel Division of the Great Lakes Steel Corp., "Quonset Theatres"; Ben Schlanger, theatre architect and consultant, will talk on "Modern Architectural Functionalism as Applied to Motion Picture Theatre Design"; George M. Petersen, contractor, on "Drive-in Theatres"; M. A. Watson, president of the Institute of Carpet Manufacturing of America, on "Floor Coverings"; M. J. DeAngelis, architect, on "Multiple Enterprise Centers"; J. F. O'Brien, sales manager of the theatre equipment section of RCA Victor, on "Television."

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has been invited to address both organizations, but it is expected he will be unable to attend because he has been ill with bursitis.

Formal opening of the six-day meeting and exhibit is scheduled for Thursday, with a luncheon to be addressed by Ray G. Colvin, TEDPA president; Oscar F. Neu, TESMA president, and James Russell Young, president of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

The entire first, second and third levels of the Shoreham's north wing have been converted into a huge exhibition and circulating area. All 90 exhibit booths which were set up have been booked by some 60 equip-

((*Continued in column* 4)

TESMA-TEDPA CONVENTION PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH

9:00 A. M.	**Registration Opens, West Lobby Lounge.**
10:00 A. M.	**Setting up of exhibition booths.**
2:00 P. M.	**TESMA Board of Directors Meeting, Green Room.**
2:00 P. M.	**TEDPA Executive Committee Meeting, TEDPA Headquarters.**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH

9:00 A. M.	**Registration Continued, West Lobby Lounge.**
10:00 A. M.	**Exhibition Opens, Entrance West Lobby Lounge, (admission by badge only).**
12:00 Noon	**Exhibition closes until 4:00 P. M.**
12:30 P. M.	**Luncheon and Opening Session, Blue Room, Lobby Floor; addresses of welcome by The Honorable James Russell Young, president of Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia; Ray G. Colvin, President of TEDPA; Oscar F. Neu, President of TESMA.**
2:15 P. M.	**TEDPA business meeting. Blue Room.**
4:00 P. M.	**Exhibition reopens.**
7:00 P. M.	**Radio Corporation of America Dinner, Louis XVI Room (for RCA dealers).**
10:00 P. M.	**Exhibition closes for the night.**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH

9:30 A. M.	**Registration continued.**
10:00 A. M.	**Exhibition opens.**
10:00 A. M.	**Sight seeing tour and luncheon in Virginia for the ladies (special buses leave Shoreham Hotel 10:00 a.m.; secure tickets at registration desk. Host: TESMA.**
12:30 P. M.	**Exhibition closes until 7:00 P. M.**
2:00 P. M.	**TESMA business session (election of officers), Blue Room.**
2:00 P. M.	**TEDPA business session, West Ballroom.**
7:00 P. M.	**Exhibition reopens.**
11:00 P. M.	**Exhibition closes for the night.**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH

10:00 A. M.	**Registration continued.**
10:00 A. M.	**Exhibition opens.**
12:30 P. M.	**Exhibition closes until 7:00 p. m.**
1:30 P. M.	**General meeting followed by Open Forum, West Ballroom. Everyone welcome. Moderator: E. Alan Williford, Vice President, General Aniline & Film Corp. Speakers: J. H. Van Deventer, Director of Information, Committee for Economic Development; M. J. DeAngelis, architect; Robert Easterly, Stran Steel Division, Great Lakes Steel Corp.; George M. Petersen, contractor; M. A. Watson, president, Institute of Carpet Manufacturing of America; J. F. O'Brien, sales manager, RCA Victor Theatre Equipment Section; Ben Schlanger, architect.**
7:00 P. M.	**Exhibition reopens.**
11:00 P. M.	**Exhibition closes for the night.**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH

11:30 A. M.	**Registration continued.**
12:30 P. M.	**Exhibition opens.**
6:00 P. M.	**Final closing of Exhibition.**
6:45 P. M.	**Cocktail Party: West Ballroom. Host: National Carbon Co.**
8:00 P. M.	**Annual banquet under the direction of TEDPA, Blue Room.**

Helped Prepare Meeting Program

W. A. Gedris
TESMA Vice-Pres.

Roy Boomer
TESMA Secretary

Tesma-Tedpa

(*Continued from column* 1)

ment manufacturers; last year in Toledo there were 60 booths for presentation of the products of 47 companies. Plans for the TESMA meetings and the trade show were handled by Roy Boomer, secretary of the manufacturers' association.

Convention committees are as follows:

Executive—F. A. Van Husan, Western Theatre Supply Co., Omaha; A. E. Thiele, Des Moines Theatre Supply Co., Des Moines; William Carroll, Falls City Theatre Equipment Co., Louisville; Joe Hornstein, Hornstein, Inc., New York; *Arrangements*—Elmer H. Brient, Elmer Brient and Sons, Washington; H. S. Dusman, J. F. Dusman Theatre Supply Co., Baltimore; *Banquet*—Phil Wicker, Standard Theatre Supply, Greensboro, N. C.; Ray Busler, United Theatre Supply Corporation, Tampa; *Ladies' Entertainment*—Mrs. Elizabeth Day Wagner, chairman; Mrs. Oscar F. Neu, Mrs. N. D. Golden.

W. A. Gedris of Ideal Seating Co., is TESMA's vice-president. TESMA's board of directors consists of Harry Strong, Strong Electric; V. J. Nolan, National Carbon; E. Wicker, Standard Theatre Supply, M. Weber, Weber Machine Corp.; E. J. Vallen, Vallen, Inc., and H. B. Engel, DeVry Corp. TEDPA's executive committee includes F. A. Van Husan, Western Theatre Supply; A. E. Thiele, Des Moines Theatre Supply; William Carroll, Falls City Theatre Equipment Co., and Joe Hornstein.

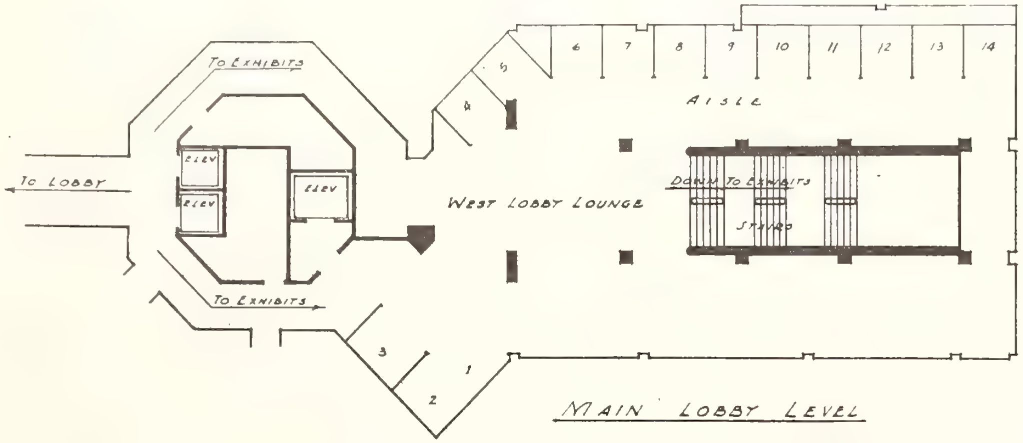
Carrington Will Head Altec's Delegation

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—G. L. Carrington, president of Altec Lansing, will head that company's delegation to the joint convention of the Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, which will be held at the Shoreham Hotel, here, Wednesday through Monday.

At TESMA-TEDPA Meet

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—E. B. Crush of Farley and Crush, publishers' representatives in Chicago, Midwest representatives of Quigley Publications, is here to attend the joint convention of Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers Association and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, to be held at the Shoreham Hotel here this week.

DIRECTORY OF EXHIBITS OF TESMA NATIONAL EQUIPMENT TRADE SHOW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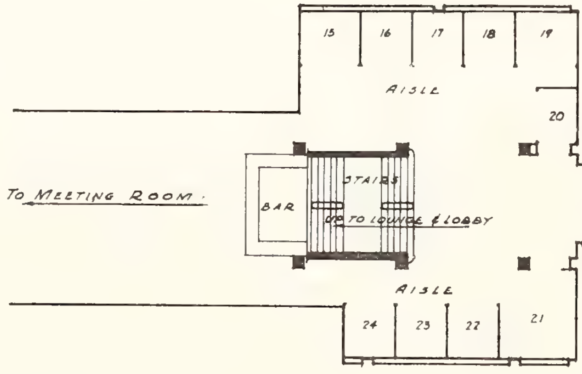
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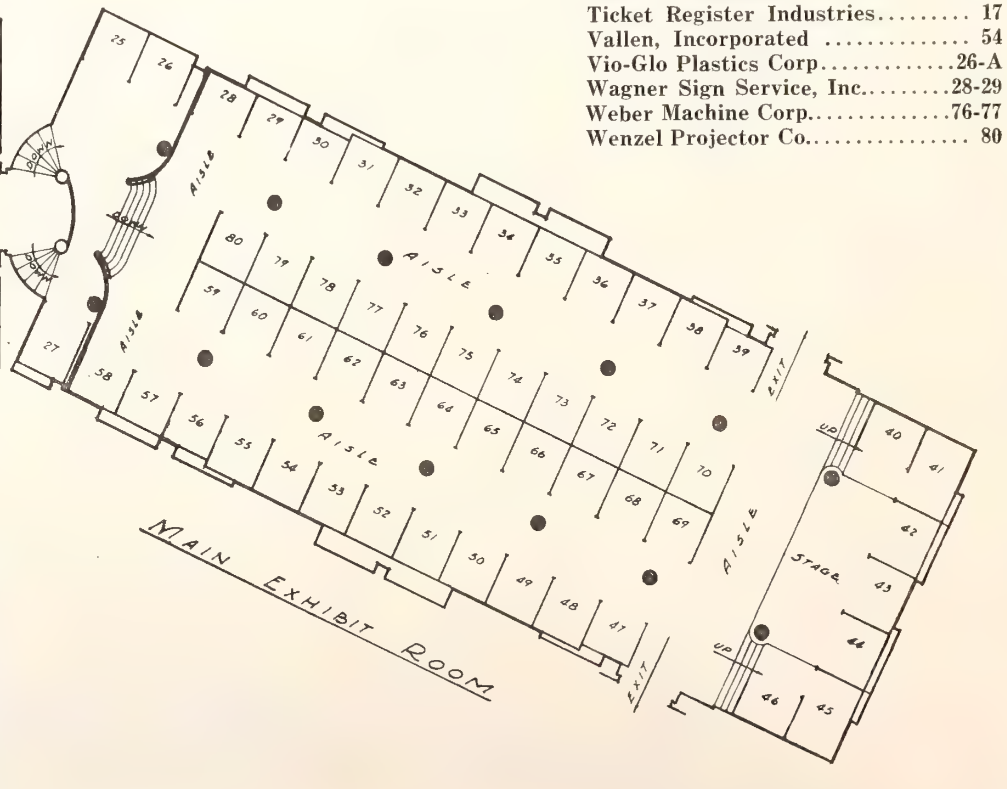
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MAIN EXHIBIT ROOM

EXHIBITORS AND BOOTH NUMBERS:

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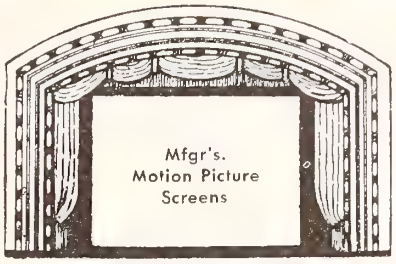

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TOA Compromise

(*Continued from page* 1)

laws, Loew's and RKO, which presumably will be large dues payers in the new organization, and the large unaffiliated circuits, such as Schine, had little prospect of having a representative on the TOA board and, unlike Paramount and National Theatres (20th Century-Fox), had no one on the officers' slate.

Needless to report, the prospect was not received with equanimity by those left out in the cold. There was an hour or so before a compromise was reached when, in fact, it looked like the slighted circuits were tempted to give TOA a little of the go-by treatment meted out to them.

Provision of By-Laws

As the by-laws stand, following adoption of the Wilby amendment, an affiliated or large independent circuit would have to be a member of a regional exhibitor organization and would have to succeed in having its representative elected by that organization to the board of TOA, in order to be represented on the board.

That applied equally to Paramount and National Theatres, of course, but those two were represented in the slate of officers prepared for the convention. And under the by-laws, TOA officers are *ex officio* members of the board.

Wilby, who started it all, seconded the compromise motion on the election of three directors-at-large by the board when it was offered to the convention by Si Fabian.

In another late change of by-laws, the number of regional vice-presidents was changed from the original eight to 16, and later to 19. Also, it was decided that the executive committee should elect its own chairman in place of the original plan of having a chairman elected by the convention. Fabian had been proposed as executive committee chairman.

Election of Directors Shortly

That election, as well as the election of TOA directors, one by each of the member regional organizations, is scheduled to take place during the next 60 days. In the meantime, TOA will be administered by the management committee designated by the American Theatres Association-Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America boards in New York last July preparatory to the merger.

The TOA regional vice-presidents are: Fabian, New York; W. F. Crockett, Virginia; Mack Jackson, Southeast; Arthur Lockwood, New England; Mitchell Wolfson, Florida; R. J. O'Donnell, Texas; E. V. Richards, Louisiana; Merrit Kyser, Northern New York; Ed Zorn, Illinois; Harry Lowenstein, Oklahoma; Lewen Pizor, Philadelphia; Herman Hunt, Ohio; Robert Livingston, Nebraska; Roy Cooper, San Francisco; Ben Strozier, North and South Carolina; Frank Walker, Pennsylvania; Lawrence Gordon, Detroit; M. A. Lightman, Memphis, and Homer Strowig, Kansas.

To Run Fire Shorts

CHICAGO, Sept. 22.—More than 300 Loop and neighborhood theatres will cooperate with the Chicago fire department during fire prevention week, Oct. 5-11, by running special trailers pointing out fire hazards, Fire Chief Marshall Anthony J. Mullvaney, announces. Trailers will be made by Filmack Trailer Co.

TOA Financing

(*Continued from page* 1)

floor for several hours while the compromise was being sought.

After TOA is completely organized and established, it was agreed, a budget for the organization will be drawn up and membership dues will be established in accordance therewith. Indications are that at that time the American Theatres Association financing plan of allocating a portion of the budget to each member organization and permitting that organization to raise its quota as it sees fit, will be adopted.

Under that plan, the film exchange percentage quota applied by distributors to the territory in which the regional exhibitor unit is located, would be applied by the TOA as the member unit's percentage of the total budget to be adopted.

The initial assessment also leaves it up to the regional organization to decide which of its member theatres can or cannot afford the 10 cents per seat levy and, if not, how much such theatres might be expected to pay.

In presenting the plan, Skouras, pointed out that in addition to organizing expenses, TOA would require a substantial treasury fund to finance opposition to the proposed American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers increase in theatre music license fees.

He said that National Theatres, of which he is president, now pays Ascap $190,000 annually and, under the new rates, would pay $550,000. Reminding the convention that relative increases confront every theatre in the country, Skouras pointed out that a successful fight against Ascap could save theatres appreciable sums and was worth giving substantial financial support to.

Aiding in effecting the compromise which postponed establishment of a permanent scale of dues was the fact that none of the leaders of local organizations who attended the convention had been authorized to accept such a plan. Thus it would have been necessary for them to return to their units and put the dues proposal before them for a vote. The assessment plan as adopted finally is on pretty much of a voluntary basis—pay it if you can, otherwise pay what you can.

Assisting Skouras at the financial controls of TOA are: Sam Pinanski of M. and P. Theatres, Boston, former treasurer of American Theatres Association, and J. J. O'Leary of Comerford Theatres, former treasurer of Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America.

Para. Theatre Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

according to reports, the entire process from televised event to screen projection, can be accomplished within 60 seconds.

Raibourn also told the TOA television committee that within a year, one-half of the population of the United States will have telecasts available to it. Stating that television "is coming along fast," Raibourn reported that television broadcasters grossed $3,000,000 in advertising revenue last year.

The TOA convention voted to name a permanent committee to study, observe and report upon television developments, particularly in the theatre field.

Greater Attendance

(*Continued from page* 1)

TOA committee to investigate further such possibilities as:

Increasing playing time by overcoming prohibitions against Sunday shows and obtaining favorable revisions of daylight saving time observance;

Establishment of admission price scales to encourage attendance in "off-periods";

Modernization and improvement of existing theatres where needed;

Improved services to patrons within the theatre and to the community by the theatre;

Special arrangements and programming to increase attendance by children;

Program attention for special language groups;

New and progressive methods of theatre advertising and publicity, with special attention to radio and television possibilities;

Careful and unceasing attention to balanced programs.

To Sift 'Expansion' Ideas

The committee recommended that the permanent committee to be appointed maintain contact with exhibitors in all parts of the country to obtain and appraise audience expansion ideas and disseminate the best to the entire TOA membership.

The committee on 16mm. films, of which Sidney Lust was chairman, termed the miniatures a "parasitical operation which could not exist if proper rentals were charged." The report held that 16mm. films have a legitimate place in schools, churches, hospitals and the like. It added that leaders of the 16mm. industry were opposed to using it as competition to theatres and would cooperate with the 35mm. industry in keeping the miniature films within its proper boundaries.

R. J. O'Donnell, chairman of the committee on organization, recommended that expansion plans for TOA be formulated at once and that the new organization carry its story to the exhibitors in the field in a drive for recruits.

Propaganda at End of Reels

In presenting the report of the committee on audience films, R. B. Wilby, chairman, said propaganda messages should be at the end of newsreels, as they were during the war, so that they can be easily eliminated by those theatres to whose policies or audiences the message is unwelcome. He observed that in the new Motion Picture Association film (Power Behind the Nation) the part "that glorifies Eric Johnston is where it can be easily removed."

Newsreels, Wilby remarked, are getting to be trailers. Exhibitors don't want to buy their trailers that way, he said.

Richey To Decline Offer of TOA Post

H. M. Richey, in charge of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, said here yesterday that he would reject proposals made to him in Washington last week that he become executive director of the new Theatre Owners of America. He gave no reason, but it is known that his current contract with M-G-M has several months to run.

TOA is known to be interested also in obtaining the services of David Palfreyman, of the Motion Picture Association Washington office, for the post.

Gamble Advocates Price Scale Study

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—A study of admission prices in relation to theatre operating costs and program values and to the general price index prevailing today was cited by Ted R. Gamble, first president of Theatre Owners of America, in his speech of acceptance to the organization's convention here at the weekend, as a proper undertaking for the new organization.

Gamble suggested that in the price and cost patterns of today, and in program value offered the theatre patron, admission prices may need adjustment to bring them more in line with the times.

Other concerns of the new organization, he said, should include the new theatre music licensing increases; restrictive legislation affecting the industry on many fronts, and the Federal admission tax.

Of the latter, he said: "We must have relief, but the fight is not won." He said there are new pressures on the nation and Congress which may operate to make removal or lowering of the Federal admission tax difficult.

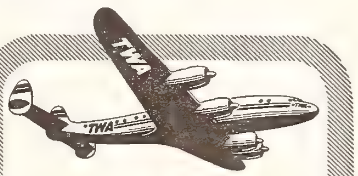
Gamble said that any plan adopted by the TOA for dealing with the proposed rate increases of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will be sent immediately to the member units for their approval. That will remedy the weakness of dealing with Ascap heretofore which has stemmed from lack of authority to deal for the members in negotiating with Ascap, he added.

Attorney General Tom Clark, a speaker on the final day of the convention, commended the industry for making and exhibiting films that serve the nation and democracy.

He urged his listeners to continue their public-spirited activities as they did "their invaluable wartime contributions" and to maintain their services for "the advancement of the American way of life."

E. K. Promotes Welsh

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Sept. 22.—Frederic S. Welsh has been named manager of Eastman Kodak's Cine-Kodak sales division by James E. McGhee, general sales manager.



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'Do Not Pay' Higher AscapMusicFee:NCA

Minneapolis, Sept. 22.—Pending complete analysis of various phases of exhibitor disputes with Ascap, members of North Central Allied are urged by the exhibitor unit "not to pay, under any circumstances, an advanced tax or tribute" to the music society, according to a bulletin to members.

Ascap Licensees

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibitors on such action but theatre owners should join with all other Ascap licensees in working for such legislation in Congress, E. C. Mills, former general manager of Ascap, told the Theatre Owners of America convention committee on Ascap here late last week.

Mills pointed out that radio broadcasters, cafe and dance hall operators, juke-box interests and all other Ascap licensees have the same interest in the subject and their united strength would stand a far better chance of getting Congressional action on amendment of the Federal copyright laws than would individual action by any one of Ascap's licensees.

The TOA convention followed Mills' advice to it in shunning litigation against Ascap. Mills had warned the convention that the Society is thoroughly entrenched in the law and litigation does not promise exhibitors any relief.

The convention recommended appointment of a permanent committee on Ascap, approved the current exhibitor request for a six months postponement of the proposed new Ascap rates and recommended that no TOA members enter into new Ascap contracts until further notice from the permanent committee.

TOA's Ascap committee will be authorized to negotiate with Ascap for a reduction of the proposed new theatre music licensing fees if the Society delays putting them into effect for that purpose.

This also follows Mills' counsel. He advised the convention that exhibitors' best chance of immediate relief from the 300 per cent music license fee increase was in negotiation with the Society.

Best informed sources feel that Ascap will not consent to a six months postponement of increased rates. They point out that the Society made known its intention to increase theatre rates six months ago and that, after announcing the new rates last month, it granted a 60-day extension from Oct. 1 of theatre licensees' present Ascap contracts.

Informed sources believe that an additional 30 to 60-day extension beyond Dec. 1 is the best exhibitors can hope for now from the Society. The Ascap board is scheduled to act on the exhibitors' request on Thursday.

Trent Theatre to Cohen

Max A. Cohen's Cinema Circuit has purchased the Trent Theatre, New Rochelle, from Solomon M. Strausberg's Interboro Circuit. The new owner will refurbish it at a cost of $60,000 and convert it into a first-run. Berk and Krumgold, theatre realtors, handled the sale.

Review

"The Foxes of Harrow"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

AGAIN, as in "A Notorious Gentleman" and in "Anna and the King of Siam," Rex Harrison is seen here as a dashing and obliquely charming disciple of arrogance uninhibited by ethics or scruples in his pursuit of his objective, which in this case appears, none too clearly, to be some sort of compensation for the illegitimacy of his birth.

Opposite him this time is Maureen O'Hara, personifying the opposite pole of social standards, and along with them go Victor McLaglen, Gene Lockhart and a large number of similarly competent players in a picturization of Frank Yerby's best-selling novel, produced on lavish scale by William A. Bacher and directed with infinite pains by John M. Stahl.

It is a richly turned out and professionally impressive production certain to command profitable notice both for that reason and because its subject matter includes much that most films leave untouched or skim lightly. It is an attraction for the adult consumer and offers him considerable to reflect upon and doubtless talk about, possibly argumentatively.

WANDA Tuchock's script opens with the aristocratic head of the Irish House of Harrow bundling his unwed daughter's illicitly begotten son off to be reared by peasants named Fox, whom the declaredly unashamed mother admonishes to teach the boy pride and send him out into the world unafraid when he is grown. That is in 1795. By 1827 the boy, now played by Harrison, has become a professional and expressedly dishonest gambler who is put off a Mississippi River boat for cheating at cards and picked up by a ruffian (McLaglen) whom he bribes to put him ashore at New Orleans, where he befriends a gentleman (Richard Haydn) caught by the dawn bereft of his pants in the wrong part of town. In return, the gentleman aids Harrison in crashing Creole society and meeting socially Miss O'Hara (who was among those present when the river boat put him off) to whom he pays persistent and ultimately successful court, terminating in a marriage which he consummates violently after knocking her chamber door from its hinges.

Prior to this incident, following which she adopts a wife-in-name-only policy, he has acquired by dint of artistry at cards and in commerce, which he calls another form of gambling, a vast estate, which he calls Harrow, many slaves, social recognition, community influence and other tokens of prestige. Ultimately a child is born of the incident, and both cherish the little one, lame from birth, but continue their separate ways—he taking a mistress the while—even beyond their son's death in a fall from a stair on which he overheard them quarrelling.

EVENTUALLY an economic panic which levels all fortunes brings the wife around somehow to visiting the mistress' apartment and offering her husband a resumption of their relationship in the interests of producing another child, and eventually, to the accompaniment of an electric storm which threatens to destroy their plantation crop, they appear to come to agreement about this in an ending photographed alongside the grave of their first born.

Numerous incidents in the telling of all this make their own separate claims upon interest. Some of these have to do with the matter of slavery, which is gone into in some detail, and there is a duel arising from a card game which reaches heights of intensity. Centrally, however, the story seems to attempt to make the point that an illegitimate who perseveres in the practice of arrogance, pride and disregard of moral principles can compensate himself satisfactorily for a circumstance of birth to which nobody but himself attaches importance. Or maybe the purpose was just to show what life in New Orleans was like in the early 19th century.

The cast also includes Vanessa Brown, Patricia Medina, Charles Irwin, Hugo Haas, Dennis Hoey, Roy Roberts and many more able performers.

Running time, 118 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Berger - Ascap Case To Supreme Court

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 22.—Agreement has been reached to "definitely" take the Ben Berger-Jessie Jensen Ascap case to the U. S. Supreme Court with Schwartz and Halpern, Minneapolis, attorneys, instructed to take such action.

Berger claims the Ascap music license fee for theatres is "pure extortion" and has asked for the test of Ascap license fees on such grounds. North Central Allied will finance the test.

Studios Decommissioned

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 22.—Full services of the Tepeyac studios here, which were disrupted by three successive collapses of stage roofs within a year, one of which killed three workmen, will not be normal until at least the end of 1947, announces Theodore Gildred, who, with his brother Albert, operates the plant.

Settle Lyceum Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

"freeze-out" and other alleged conspiracies, has been settled out of court, Ben Berger, head of the Duluth firms, disclosed here.

Neither Berger or spokesmen for MACO or the distributors would discuss details of settlement terms.

Berger filed the suit in Federal District Court here last Dec. 21, after he had purchased the Lyceum when the lease for the house had been dropped by MACO.

Asks FCC Hearing

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Van Curler Broadcasting Corp., in which S. H. Fabian, circuit executive, is a large stockholder, has asked the Federal Communications Commission to hold oral arguments on its recent action tentatively granting the frequency of station WOKO, Albany, to a rival broadcasting corporation.

10 Companies Close Veterans' Film Deals

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—Ten companies have signed contracts with the Veterans Administration to release 16 and 35 millimeter films to VA hospitals and homes during the remainder of 1947 and the first half of 1948, VA announces. The 10 are: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, RKO Radio, Universal, United Artists, Monogram, Columbia, Republic, Eagle-Lion, Film Classics and 20th Century-Fox.

All but United Artists and F[illegible] Classics will supply both 16 and 35m[illegible] pictures. These two have contracts for only 35mm. showings. VA also negotiated contracts with Films, Inc., and Ideal Pictures to act as distributing agents.

Under VA's program for ill and disabled veteran-patients, films are shown regularly in hospital auditoriums, and 16mm. productions are brought into wards for patients unable to leave their beds. During July, 11,000 films were shown in all VA hospitals and homes.

UA-RKO Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

the U. A. board of directors here yesterday. It could not be learned how many pictures might be involved, probable price or, whether negotiations have even been opened. But U. A. interest in the possibility is definite.

Several years ago when U. A. faced a similar product shortage, Gradwell L. Sears negotiated the purchase of some 13 features from Paramount and the deal proved eventually to be advantageous to U. A. The company's producers and U. A. itself have been unable to obtain new production financing since imposition of the British tax and the embargo on shipments of American films to England.

The board yesterday authorized management to negotiate for new theatre holdings on the West Coast The company now has interests in four Los Angeles houses and one in San Francisco in association with Joseph Blumenfeld. Sears, UA president, is to leave here for the Coast today in connection with the expansion program and will be joined later in the week by Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president. The two also have on their agenda meetings with UA producers regarding the stalemate in new product delivery.

Yesterday's board meeting heard a report on British market conditions by Kelly who returned from London at the weekend. According to a company statement, Kelly obtained playing time for seven UA films in Britain's Gaumont-British circuit and negotiations are continuing for bookings with the A. B. C. circuit.

No mention was made of J. Arthur Rank's Odeon Theatres, in which UA has a minority interest. However it is understood that while Gaumont British (also controlled by Rank) playing off the initial seven pictu a deal with Odeon probably will worked out. Warners controls A B. C.

Further board action includes approval of a pact for the world-wide distribution of "The Roosevelt Story," by UA.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 62. NO. 60 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1947 TEN CENTS

Set Stage for Final Round In Trust Case

Defendants and Gov't Drafting Appeal Briefs

The Government's anti-trust suit against the distributors is again occupying full-scale attention of company attorneys here with the theatre-owning defendants now completing reports on holdings and pooled interests for the New York Federal Court. Additionally, all of them, as well as the Department of Justice, are at work on drafts of appeal briefs for the U. S. Supreme Court.

Under the New York order, the exhibitor-distributor companies are to submit to the court here by Oct. 1 details of theatre transactions, in compliance with the court's decree, since their original report last July 1. Although details were withheld, home office spokesmen indicated that few changes are to be reported since the bulk of those required were effected prior to the July 1 statement to the

(*Continued on page* 3)

14 Vending Firms Merge

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23.—Reynolds and Co. has offered 165,134 shares of common stock, $1 par value, of ABC Vending Corp. theatre candy-vendors, formed to acquire the ownership of the vending businesses conducted by Berlo Vending Co. of Philadelphia, Sanitary Automatic Candy Corp., New York, and various affiliated companies. The Berlo group also includes Peoples Service News Co.,

(*Continued on page* 3)

Tesma-Tedpa Meet Will Start Today

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Second annual joint convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association will open at the Shoreham Hotel, here, tomorrow and will continue through Monday.

Some 1,000 from the theatre equip-

(*Continued on page* 2)

Get Extension in Chicago Trust Case

Chicago, Sept. 23.—Paramount and Balaban and Katz have been given an extension until Oct. 23 to file a brief in support of their motion to strike off complaint filed by the De Luxe Theatre in its anti-trust suit. The two were the only ones of all of the film companies and circuits named in the suit to include such a motion in answers to the complaint. Further action now awaits Judge Shaw's ruling on the motion.

Clark to Press US Case in High Court

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 23.—At the request of North Dakota's Senator Langer, Attorney General Tom Clark will present the Government's opening argument when appeals in the industry anti-trust case are heard by the U. S. Supreme Court, board members of North Central Allied were told here by Benjamin Berger, NCA president. Berger said he and Langer had met recently.

It is said this would only be the second time Clark will have appeared before the high court, the first being in the John L. Lewis case.

The NCA board went on record in support of roadshows if the pictures have outstanding merit and "terms are right," unanimously opposing 60-to-70 per cent rentals as "intolerable." The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers and other matters were also discussed but no further action was taken.

TOA in Action on Advanced Prices

Swinging into immediate action on the mandates of its convention in Washington last weekend, the newly organized Theatre Owners of America yesterday appointed a permanent committee on advanced admission policies to confer with top executives of distribution companies.

Indications are that Si Fabian, New York regional vice-president of TOA, who was chairman of the convention committee on the advanced admission price problem, will be elected chairman of the permanent committee when it meets on Thursday or Friday, and at which time personnel of the com-

(*Continued on page* 3)

'Ad Valorem' Duty Revision Likely In November: Kelly

Likelihood that the British Government will consider a favorable revision of its 75 per cent import duty within the next two months was expressed here yesterday by Arthur W. Kelly, executive vice-president of United Artists, who returned here recently from a six-week stay in London.

Even more optimistic, Kelly related, is the J. Arthur Rank organization which, he said, "believes the situation will clear up in October."

Changes in the drastic *ad valorem* measure which set into motion a wave of sweeping economy adjustments in the American industry will come up for study in November, when the British are slated to give thought to the establishment of an interim budget, Kelly believes.

In the normal sequence of Parliamentary procedures, he went on, the

(*Continued on page* 3)

Johnston, Nelson Set UK Tax Talks

WASHINGTON, Sept. 23.—Some crystallization of the industry's plans on discussing the British *ad valorem* tax with Labor Government officials may take place here during the next few days as a result of conferences between Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and Donald M. Nelson, head of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Nelson will arrive here tomorrow by plane from the Coast, and an SIMPP announcement said it is expected he will confer with Johnston for "a possible solution of the problems" caused by the 75 per cent *ad valorem* tax, and on plans for the two film leaders to go to England together to meet with British officials.

Nelson was here earlier this month visiting Government officials on the

(*Continued on page* 3)

To Talk Raises for 2,500 of SOPEG

Company representatives agreed here yesterday to present a counter-proposal to demands of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild for a 30 per cent wage increase for 2,500 home office employes. The counter-proposal will be offered next Tuesday at a negotiation meeting in

(*Continued on page* 3)

UA Interested In Buying 7 RKO Features

Block Is Inventoried At Nine Millions

United Artists is interested in an outright purchase of seven feature pictures from RKO, valued at $9,000,000, to relieve an impending product shortage which may confront UA in a matter of months, company officials revealed here yesterday.

Gradwell L. Sears, UA president, left here for the Coast by plane yesterday, where he will confer with N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, on the subject. Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, will join Sears on the Coast early next week.

The UA product shortage stems from the clampdown by banks on financing of independent production in consequence of the loss of the British market. It also has prevented UA from proceeding with its own plans to establish a $5,000,000 revolving credit for financing its producers.

UA has 13 unreleased pictures on hand but it has had no new produc-

(*Continued on page* 3)

File to Halt Ascap Monday

Move to restrain the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers from putting into effect its increased music tax rates will be made in New York Federal Court on Monday, according to Milton Weisman, of the law firm of Weisman, Allan, Quinn, Spett and Cellar. Weisman said here yesterday that complaint papers are nearing completion and the action will be taken within

(*Continued on page* 3)

See Better Chance Of Ascap Delay

Sources close to Ascap indicated their belief yesterday that exhibitors appear to stand a good chance of being granted the six months' postponement from Oct. 1 of the effective date of the new theatre music licensing fees, requested recently by the Theatre Owners of America in con-

(*Continued on page* 3)

Personal Mention

M. A. LIGHTMAN, head of Malco Theatres, Memphis, plans to leave New York today for Detroit and a bridge tournament.

•

Sam Eckman, Jr., is this week celebrating his 80th anniversary as managing director of M-G-M in England, and the 30th anniversary of his association with M-G-M.

•

Sam Shain, director of exhibitor and public relations for 20th-Fox's distribution department, has returned here from Washington and Philadelphia.

•

Herman Gluckman, president, and Stanley Hand, general sales manager, of Nu-Screen Corp., arrived here yesterday from Washington and will return there today.

•

A. J. O'Keefe, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will leave New York for Boston today.

•

Hugh Owen, Paramount's Eastern division manager, and A. M. Kane, district manager, were in Albany yesterday from New York.

•

Tom J. Connors returned to New York yesterday from a 10-day Canadian fishing trip.

•

Cecil B. DeMille is due here from Hollywood on Sept. 29.

U-I Moving Day

All home office departments of Universal-International and affiliated companies will move to their new location at 57th Street and Park Avenue this weekend.

Gamble to Tri-States

Ted R. Gamble will make his first appearance as president of the new Theatre Owners of America as a speaker at the Tri-States MPTO convention, Memphis, on Oct. 14-15.

Films Again Get Freight Rate Cut

Washington, Sept. 23.—Three more airlines late this week will ask the Civil Aeronautics Board to approve 33 1/3 per cent reductions in their rates for shipping air freight, including films and film accessories and equipment, effective Oct. 25.

The lines are Western, Inland, and Southwest.

The proposed reductions, which come on top of a recent 25 per cent cut, would bring the rates of these lines down to an average of 14 cents per ton mile. Their action, it was understood, was prompted by a need to meet competition with United Airlines on the West Coast. United had filed a one-third reduction on some commodities, including films, moving between certain points, effective Oct. 5, and then followed this with a similar cut covering all commodities and all cities, effective Oct. 25.

Meanwhile, independent air freight lines and air freight forwarders intensified their fight on the rate reduction moves of the passenger airlines. They have asked the CAB to deny the pending petitions, and today took their fight to the President's Air Policy Commission which indicated it might bring some pressure to bear on the CAB for a thorough investigation of the entire air freight picture.

The independents claim that the passenger lines, cushioned by high air-mail subsidies, are dropping their freight rates to force them out of business.

New Crystal Method Announced by Kodak

Rochester, N. Y., Sept. 23.—A new and swifter way of making silver nitrate crystals—keystone of all photography—has been announced by Eastman Kodak.

Originally designed by Kodak before the war, the recently completed system uses machinery that makes silver nitrate crystals continuously and dries them in a few minutes, whereas formerly this took several days.

40 More Here Buy Foreign Product

Expansion of interest in foreign films is given further evidence with the disclosure that the Century Circuit, operating a circuit of about 40 neighborhood theatres in the metropolitan area, has concluded an agreement to exhibit the entire list of French films distributed in this country by Siritzky International. William Shelton, general sales manager, negotiated the contract for Siritzky. Yesterday, it was disclosed that George Skouras Theatres, operating 62 houses in the Metropolitan area, will frequently show foreign films.

A dozen films are involved in the Century deal. "The Queen's Necklace" is the first of three which will start showing on Friday. It will be followed by "Colonel Chabert" and "The Well-Digger's Daughter."

Nine others, still unseen in this country, will be shown when they conclude Broadway runs.

Century Inaugurates Children's Project

In a move designed to provide children with entertainment suited to their tastes, Century Circuit on Oct. 18 will launch a project called "Sat-r-day Camps" whereby five of its theatres will present on Saturdays films that have been approved by a special screening committee. It will also institute audience participation stage activities, supervised by a "camp councillor." The five houses are the Mayfair and Patio in Brooklyn and the Sunnyside, Freeport and Floral on Long Island.

Tesma-Tedpa Meet

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment field and others including theatre owners, managers, maintenance men, projectionists, architects, film exchange managers and Government representatives began to arrive in Washington this evening to participate in convention sessions and to examine the 90 displays of theatre equipment which have been set up by more than 60 manufacturers.

Newsreel Parade

THE mounting strife in India is recorded in all current newsreels. Also spotlighted in all issues but one is Vishinsky's attack on the U. S. Other subjects coming in for prominent coverage are the passing of LaGuardia, President Truman's voyage, and clashes in Trieste. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 8—Vishinsky attack on U. S. startles UN Assembly. Treiste becomes free city. Religious strife in India. Hurricane lashes New Orleans and Mississippi coast. President Truman on the U.S.S. Big Mo.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 206—Soviet-U. S crisis. Vishinsky slanders America. U. S. denounces baseless lies. Trieste tests UN. Conflict in India. At sea with the Trumans.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 9—UN: Russias' stand draws sharp rebuttal. A man of the people mourned. President Truman back in Washington. India's holy war.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 76—President Truman and family witness traditional initiation as *USS Missouri* crosses the equator. Thousands die in India. Demonstrators clash in Trieste. Packers beat Red Skins in football benefit game.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 11—Vishinsky assails U. S. New York mourns the passing of La Guardia. President Truman on eventful trip aboard *Big Mo.* Riot and terror in India. Packers beat Red Skins.

Eastern Group Backs Fort Lee Company

Albany, Sept. 23.—Fort Lee Studios, Inc., has been incorporated to carry on a motion picture business in New Jersey. Thomas J. Taglianetti, of Jamaica, was incorporating attorney.

A group in the East is understood to be ready to finance production at Fort Lee, with work scheduled to begin in two months. Fort Lee was one of the original sites of the beginning of the motion picture industry.

Sponsors of the Studios will hold a reception for the trade press tomorrow at the 21 Club here.

B'nai Honors Mrs. FDR

New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will pay tribute to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt at the Hotel Astor, here, on Sept. 30, Robert M. Weitman, president of the lodge, announces. Mrs. Roosevelt will be honored for her "outstanding contributions to human welfare and her efforts in promoting international understanding and inter-faith amity."

Cleveland Theatres Are Now Taxed 23%

Cleveland, Sept. 23.—By a vote of 30 to three, the City Council has passed a three per cent municipal tax, which with the Federal wartime excise tax levies a 23 per cent ticket tax on theatres in this city.

New York 1st-Runs Holding Up Well

Holdovers are the rule, not the exception, at New York first-run situations this week and nearly all are justifying the extended playing time. Two newcomers bowed in: the Winter Garden's "Singapore" and the results add up to an estimated handsome $35,000, for the first week, while at the Palace, "The Long Night" looks good for $22,000 in its initial week.

"Down to Earth" is holding to a high level at the Music Hall where, with a stage show, the second week's figure is climbing to $135,000. A second week's gross of $70,000 is claimed for "The Outlaw" at the Broadway. A sixth week of "Life with Father" should mean a healthy $36,000 to the Warner, while "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty," at the Astor, still is showing strength, sixth weeks' income reaching $48,000.

A fifth and final week of "Mother Wore Tights," with Jack Haley and Ella Logan on stage, provided the Roxy with a profitable $70,000. "Foxes of Harrow," with Milton Berle in person, will open there today. "Desert Fury" will go into the Paramount today, succeeding "Welcome Stranger" which, with Carmen Cavallaro on stage, wound up a seventh week with a splendid $65,000. "Gone with the Wind" is drawing top money for a fourth week at the Criterion, grossing $34,500.

"Dark Passage" is big at the Strand with $55,000 indicated for a third week; stage assistance is provided by Vic Lombardo's orchestra. At the Rivoli, "Crossfire" is doing nicely in its ninth week, grossing $27,000. "Fun and Fancy Free" will open at the Globe on Saturday, to follow "The Roosevelt Story" which is headed for a good $23,000 for a fifth and final week. "Romance of Rosy Ridge," with Enric Madriguera's bandsmen on the Capitol stage, is going fairly well with $45,000 seen for a second week. A Warner reissue combination, "Each Dawn I Die" and "Badmen of Missouri," is likely to give the Gotham a pleasing $17,500 in a first week.

And the British imports are still doing good business. At the Fulton, "Black Narcissus" should do about $13,500 in a sixth week; "Frieda" figures to give the Park about $8,000 in a sixth week.

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'Ad Valorem'

(*Continued from page 1*)

duty would continue in effect, if not altered in November, at least until next April, at which time the regular budget is adopted. Kelly minimized this possibility though, observing that in view of the British Labor Party's overwhelming majority "anything can happen."

The UA executive explained that the import tax on U. S. films is on the books as a Treasury order although in force since the date of promulgation and that it actually is to become law upon 21 "seatings" of Parliament, which would be sometime in November.

Kelly reported that Rank's Odeon and Gaumont-British circuits presently are "marking time" in the belief that the issue will be clarified by next month. While Gaumont has booked seven of UA's 17 pictures in England, Odeon has yet to date any, he said in explanation of his "marking time" reference. He said negotiations for Odeon playing time have been suspended for the time being.

Kelly said he saw no evidence of stepped-up British production activity, that the British producer's shooting time of an average picture remains at about 90 days, as compared with 35 in Hollywood. The British producer is not "so fully prepared" upon beginning camera work, he commented.

New Details

Kelly offered a few new details to UA's announced plans to produce in England in partnership with unidentified British interests. He said six pictures annually are involved in "an elaborate plan" with each to be budgeted at 275,000 pounds ($1,100,000). He said he hopes to hear from London on this any day now, but did not dismiss the possibility of new obstacles when further economic changes are effected Oct. 1. Under these, he reported, loans to companies of foreign countries must have the approval of the Bank of England which, he said, is "not particularly keen about authorizing any money for new American production unless American dollars are 'chucked in'."

UA's previously reported intentions of borrowing $5.000,000 for production financing still may materialize, but Kelly conceded that this would be predicated on opening of the British market for new product. As for the independent producer's financial position, he maintains that banking interests wanted to see such a break as that concerning the booking of seven films in Gaumont and now the matter may be reviewed "from this new angle."

Returning to the domestic front, he said UA has a backlog of 13 features and added no reissues are planned for the present.

Kelly will join Gradwell Sears, UA president, in Hollywood next week to discuss expansion of UA theatre holdings in the Joseph Blumenfeld Circuit. This, Kelly said, will mean no monetary outlay but rather the transfer of some holdings in five Blumenfeld houses to other Blumenfeld units.

WANTED

Two female clerks and stenographer with accounting experience. Write giving full particulars to —

J. Arthur Rank Organization
245 West 52nd St. N. Y. 19, N. Y.

Vending Firms Merge

(*Continued from page 1*)

Peoples Service Vending Co., Automatic Sales and Service, Inc., 333 South Broad Street Corp. In the Sanitary group are Criterion Concessions, Interstate Automatic Candy Corp., Pack Shops of Connecticut, Pacific Automatic Candy Corp., and Schenectady Pack Shops. Also in the Sanitary group are partly-owned companies, including Tri-State Automatic Candy Corp., Northwest Automatic Candy Corp. and Southern Automatic Candy Co.

Sales of the affiliated companies at the end of 1946 were made in 3,160 different locations in 26 States and the District of Columbia. Combined sales for 1946 for the companies involved reached $20,503,442, with a net income of $871,897, after taxes. Sales for the first half of 1947 reached $12,260,989.32, with a net income after taxes of $521,384.

Principal officers of the ABC company are: Charles L. O'Reilly, New York, president, and Jacob Beresin of Philadelphia, vice-president. Directors include these two and also Benjamin Sherman, New York; Edward Loeb and ex-Senator Max Aron, Philadelphia; and Louis Klebenov of Boston. Rodney D. Andrews, former comptroller of Home Owners' Loan Corp., has been named treasurer and comptroller of the company. E. Russell Shockley, of Schnader, Kenworthey, Segal and Lewis, counsel for the company, is secretary. Shockley was for many years Deputy Attorney General of Peensylvania and was Attorney General in 1943.

Johnston, Nelson

(*Continued from page 1*)

British tax and on the financial situation of the independents, but at that time Johnston was in the hospital.

The SIMPP office here said that it did not know whether Nelson had set up any appointments with Government officials for this trip, nor whether he would carry on any further talks on Government financial aid to the independents. During his last visit, Nelson saw representatives of the Reconstruction Finance Corp. and Export-Import Bank as well as State Department officials.

File to Halt Ascap

(*Continued from page 1*)

the framework of an anti-trust suit brought against Ascap by a group of New York independent exhibitors, through the Weisman law firm.

Meanwhile, the music performing rights society has definitely set a board meeting for tomorrow at which will be considered a request by theatremen that Ascap postpone for six months the imposition of its new taxes.

Ascap's annual membership meeting has been scheduled for Oct. 10, at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel here.

Up-State Independents Attack

ALBANY, N. Y., Sept. 23. — New York State Attorney General Leonard Rosenthal today filed a protest against Ascap's theatre music license rate increases with U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark, in behalf of more than 40 independent exhibitors in the Albany exchange area. "It is a sorry state of affairs," Rosenthal's protest reads, "when the existence of a theatre depends upon the whims of such a limited group whose music plays so small a part in its operation."

Ascap Delay

(*Continued from page 1*)

junction with others.

Previously, the same sources had felt that a 30 to 60-day extension, in addition to the 60-day postponement already granted by Ascap, was the best exhibitors could hope for, although the exhibitors themselves have been optimistic all along about getting the six months' postponement. They figure that on the basis of the 300 per cent increase in rates asked by Ascap, the delay, if granted, would have exhibitors $1,000,000 and would allow time to negotiate an acceptable formula with the Society.

Board Meets Tomorrow

The Ascap board is scheduled to meet here tomorrow to act on the exhibitor request.

Those close to Ascap assert that Society officials are impressed by recent reactions to the proposed rate increase, including the unmistakable determination evidenced at the Theatre Owners of America convention in Washington last weekend to oppose the Ascap scale as announced. In consequence, it is said, Ascap is giving more thought to negotiations with exhibitors than it had in the past, and is convinced that ample time for negotiation must be allowed.

Trust Case

(*Continued from page 1*)

court.

Latest word from the high court in Washington, as relayed by Thomas Turner Cooke, Universal attorney, is that appeal arguments are likely to be heard in December with a decision expected to be rendered within six weeks. The court will convene Oct. 6.

Normal time allotment for oral argument is one hour for each side. In other words each of the eight defendants, if this is to be the case, would have seven and one-half minutes. However, the companies will ask for, and expect, additional time because of the complexity of the suit and the number of defendants. Home office attorneys claim it is a foregone conclusion that the time extension will be granted.

Court's Routine

Supreme Court's daily sessions consist of only four hours, opening at 12 noon and adjourning at 4:30 P.M. with a half-hour luncheon intermission. According to general procedure, the Justices stay in session for two weeks at a time with a two-week interval between each session.

Legal representatives of the defendant companies, it is understood, are to resume meetings here shortly with the aim of eliminating duplication of arguments in their briefs.

UA Film Buy

(*Continued from page 1*)

tion started since the imposition of the British tax on imported films early last month.

RKO has 21 completed, or nearly completed pictures, and others in work and in preparation. It is not known which pictures might figure in a deal with UA, in the event one could be worked out, but it is believed that RKO might be willing to reduce its current inventory if acceptable terms are offered.

Eligible Pictures

Unofficially, it was hazarded that a choice might be made from among such completed pictures as: "Tycoon," "Night Song," "Out of the Past," "The Fugitive," "The Pearl," "Indian Summer," "Fighting Father Dunne," "Return of the Badmen," "Roughshod" and "Wild Horse Mesa," or such nearly completed pictures as: "Good Sam," "Race Street," "Under Arizona Skies" and "Station West."

Several years ago, when faced with a product shortage, Sears negotiated the purchase of a block of pictures from Paramount, which subsequently were profitably handled by UA..

TOA on Prices

(*Continued from page 1*)

mittee is to be announced.

Meetings with company executives will be sought by the committee promptly to reach what the convention resolution termed "a statesmanlike solution to a problem that may be injurious to the business."

Among those attending yesterday's meeting here were Ted Gamble, president; Herman Levy, general counsel; Mack Jackson, Southeastern regional vice-president; Fabian and Robert W. Coyne, interim executive director.

Permanent committees on Ascap and other problems considered by the convention will be appointed during the next few weeks, it was indicated.

Raises for 2,500

(*Continued from page 1*)

the Hotel Astor.

Company representatives told SOP EG officials that they are willing to meet earlier, but that negotiations with projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, are scheduled tomorrow, and will absorb their attention for the rest of the week.

The negotiation session held here at the Astor yesterday was the second on SOPEG's wage demands.

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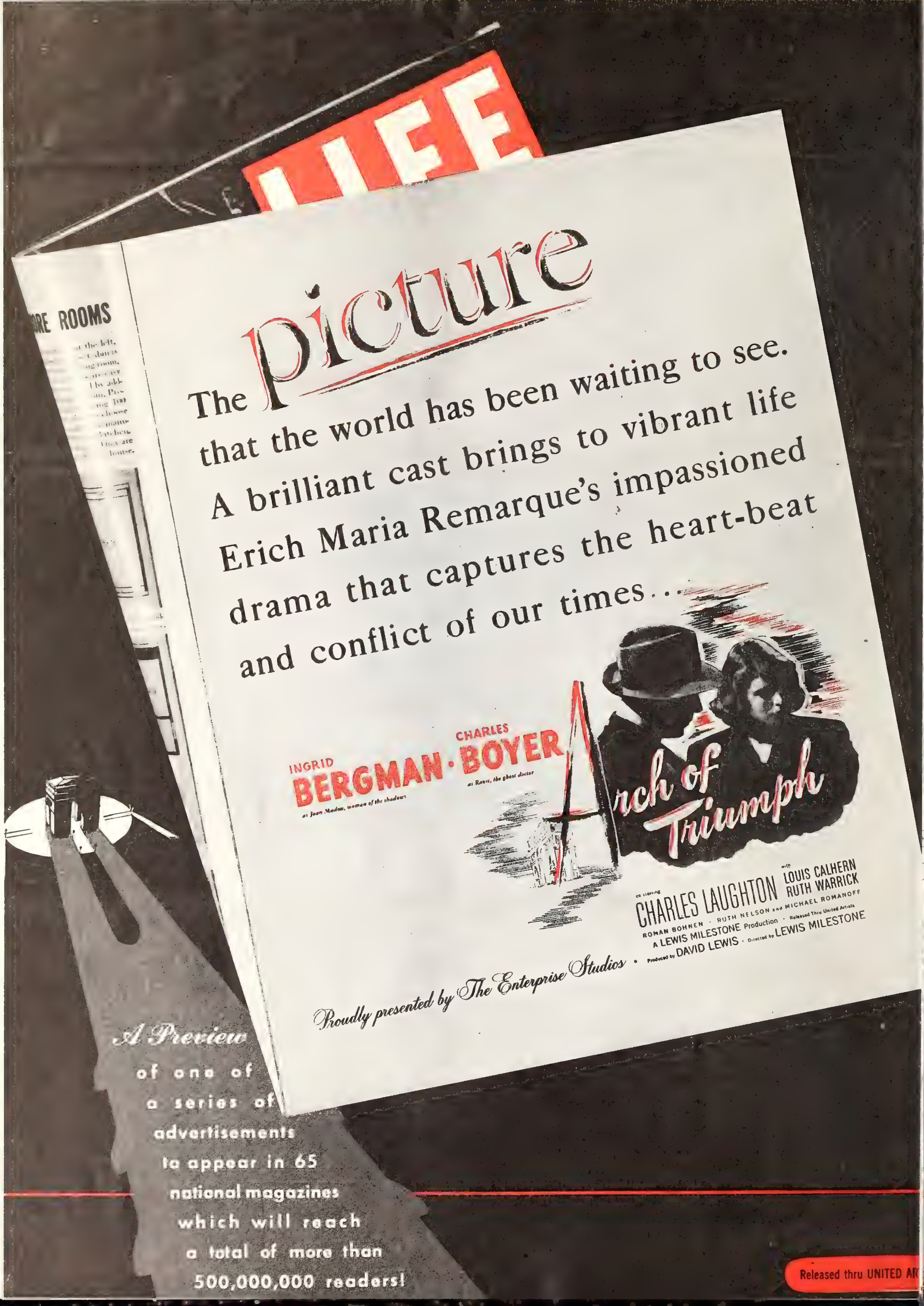

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Dividends Are Running 25% Ahead of 1946

29 Millions in 8 Months, Against 23 Last Year

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—Despite all of the conversation during the summer concerning reputed serious economic disturbances prevailing, motion picture film company dividends on current earnings in the first eight months of 1947, through August, were 25.3 per cent higher than in the same period in 1946.

Motion picture companies paid out $29,348,000 in dividends in the 1947 eight-month period, against $23,415,000 from January through August of last year.

The figures show dividend payments of $13,029,000 for the past three months, compared with $11,877,000 in June, July and August of 1946, according to a Department of Commerce report issued today.

The film companies paid out $541,000 in August, 1947, against $3,125,000 in August last year, only because the Stanley Co. of America, a Warner subsidiary, paid out $2,700,000 in August, 1946, and did not make any disbursement in that month this year.

Economy Wave Cuts Color Productions

Drastic reduction in the number of pictures to be made in Technicolor in coming months appears to be an inevitable consequence of current economy programs by major companies, most of which are aimed at reducing production costs wherever possible, various home office executives said here yesterday.

One executive said his company

(*Continued on page 7*)

All Gulf Theatres Open After Storm

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 24.—All theatres along the Gulf Coast have resumed operations following the savage hurricane which last week swept in from the Southeast. Meanwhile, however, another tropical storm yes-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Summer Drew Firm Rise in 1st Run Income

The comeback rally which numerous key city first-run theatre grosses staged last June progressed steadily during July and produced a sharp upturn in business for last month, according to reports on some 170 situations received from MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents in the field.

Weekly average gross for July and August rose to $16,083, from June's $15,254. July average rose to $15,674, while in August it hit $16,492 and exceeded the $16,292 of April which was followed by the year's low of $14,695 recorded for May.

However, July and August of last year produced a combined weekly average of $17,659, with weekly averages for the individual months being $17,168 and $18,150, respectively.

In July and August of this year the sustained upward trend could have produced higher figures perhaps, had

(*Continued on page 5*)

See Australian Tax Likelihood Ended

Home office foreign departments here were advised by their representatives in Australia yesterday that it now appears to be almost a certainty that no tax will be imposed on American films by that country.

All indications, it was reported, now point to an agreement in the near future on retention in Australia of one-third of American distributors' revenues there to be spent within Australia for non-transferable and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Chile Remittances Are Cut to 30%

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—U. S. distributors in Chile were able to remit during the first five months of this year less than 30 per cent of the amounts for which they got exchange, a Department of Commerce report states. The Department says it has no later figures, nor any indication of the amounts involved as expressed in dollars. Despite this tight exchange situation, the Department says, many of the newer and more popular U. S. films are being shown in Chile.

30 Cities Impose Admission Taxes

Thirty cities have imposed taxes on admissions during the year according to the American Municipal Association. In addition, officials of numerous cities, including Cleveland, Cincinnati and St. Paul, are currently considering adoption of such a tax, to help solve pressing fiscal problems.

Also, scores of towns and villages have passed levies on admissions.

Fitzgibbons Sees UK Tax Solution

TORONTO, Sept. 24.—J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian, declares the motion picture industry will undoubtedly be able to reach a solution of the British tax difficulty as it has always done in other problems. It is likely, however, that adjustments will have to be made and production budgets revised but there is no need to worry about the industry, he told the company's partners at a meeting.

Famous Players has "a magnificent backlog of high-budget pictures" which will suffice until the middle of 1948, Fitzgibbons declared. A series of partner meetings has been concluded and the circuit is drawing up a schedule of regional conferences for its theatre managers.

Exhibitor Leaders Laud MPA's 'Power'

Endorsement of the Motion Picture Association-sponsored "Power Behind the Nation," produced by Warners, has come from exhibitor leaders all over the U. S., the MPA reported here yesterday.

Among those from whom endorse-

(*Continued on page 7*)

File 'Curley' Suit in Memphis Monday

Hal Roach, producer of "Curley," and United Artists, its distributor, will formally file a complaint against the Memphis censors, charging violation of the Constitution in banning the film, in Memphis Supreme Court on Monday or Tuesday. H. G. Glankler and Lowell W. Taylor, both of Memphis, will represent Roach and UA, respectively.

Report UA in Offer to Sell Odeon Shares

Rank Said to Have Been Uninterested in Deal

A proposal for the sale to J. Arthur Rank of United Artists' substantial minority interest in Odeon Theatres of England was broached by Arthur W. Kelly, UA executive vice-president, during the latter's recent stay in London without winning any sign of interest from the British film leader, it was reported in informed industry circles here yesterday.

UA's interest in Odeon is believed to amount to as much as 80,000 shares, having a normal valuation of approximately $9,000,000. However, at current market prices the valuation is said to be about half that amount.

According to trade reports, the UA

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston and Nelson Talk Status Abroad

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers head Donald M. Nelson met here for a half-hour today, and "discussed the general foreign situation," but came to no conclusions on further action, or on their going to England to discuss the British tax with Labor Government

(*Continued on page 7*)

Selznick to Release Hellinger Product

Product of Mark Hellinger, including three Humphrey Bogart pictures, one Ernest Hemingway story, and others, will be released by Selznick Releasing Organization, it is an-

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Unconquered" is reviewed on page 6. Key city gross reports also are on page 6.

Personal Mention

MARK OSTRER, managing director of Gaumont-British, will arrive here from London next week.

•

S. E. Coffin has retired as manager of the Princess Theatre, Memphis, and William Schrecker, Strand manager, has succeeded him, with Olive Brownlee, city manager for Malco, at Fort Smith, Ark., going to the Strand.

•

John W. Dulles, Motion Picture Asssociation economic consultant, is en route to Europe where he will aid in a Congressional economic survey.

•

Norman H. Moray, president of Warner Pathe News, has left here for a two-month nation-wide tour. His first stop: Chicago.

•

Ed Hinchy, Warners playdate department chief, who will return here from Washington today, will depart for Albany tomorrow.

•

Edward M. Schnitzer, United Artists' Eastern and Canadian sales head, left New York last night for Pittsburgh.

•

Steve Fitzgibbon and Mickey Andelman, New England distributors, will arrive here from Boston on Monday.

•

Ingrid Forrest, British actress, arrived in New York yesterday from England aboard the *S. S. Queen Mary*.

•

Hugh Herbert, film comedian and baseball fan, will arrive here from the Coast on Saturday to fill the role of World Series spectator.

•

Ed Seaman, formerly with the Wilby-Kincey Circuit in North and South Carolina, is the new manager of the Avon Theatre, Savannah, Ga.

•

Sol Sachs, RKO Radio's Dallas branch manager, is a New York visitor.

•

Tom C. Clark, U. S. Attorney-General, had a birthday yesterday—his 48th.

•

Syd Gross, Film Classics' assistant advertising chief, is en route to Memphis from New York.

•

Charles C. Deardourff, in charge of M-G-M exploitation in Cleveland, has returned from a vacation.

•

Jimmy Beard of the Rio Theatre, New Orleans, and Mrs. Beard are parents of a son.

•

Terry Turner, RKO Radio exploitation chief, is in Chicago from New York.

•

Herbert Copelan, chief of Warner Theatres in Latin-America, has left here for Havana.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

SOMEONE in the upper reaches of the Shoreham Hotel may have calculated it to a nicety. Maybe it was too generous a leap toward an impressive conclusion to declare 10,000 theatres with 5,000,000 seats were represented in Washington when ATA and MPTOA consolidated as Theatre Owners of America.

However, there never was any doubt about the fact this convention ranked among the most significant in the annals of exhibition—and it might be successfully maintained no other has been more so.

In investments in brick and mortar and in influence, this was a display of big business. About $2,000,000,000 worth, it was remarked.

■

Circuit representation alone made the convention big business. The Paramount partners, solidly on hand from the Solid South with other areas not neglected, and the complete top echelon of National Theatres' management headed by Charles P. Skouras were the stewards of approximately 2,500 theatres worth hundreds of millions. They are committed to TOA.

Loew's and RKO were there, but they were, and are, committed to nothing. Their representatives observed, reserved decision, never took to the convention floor with a single utterance.

Warner was noticeably absent.

■

Unaffiliated theatremen—some individuals, but most on hand for their state associations representing substantial investments, too—were in evidence, of course, and some were pretty vocal. They captured the issue on an initial assessment of ten cents a seat, Skouras having brought up that one with affiliated circuit support, by winning out on an alternative plan vesting fund-raising methods in local associations.

It was one of the hot tussles of the proceedings with enough temperature in it to bring a threat of withdrawal from Fred Wehrenberg, former MPTOA president, who became chairman of the TOA board in the fusion. He led the opposition with independent support.

■

There was significance in that controversy, and it left its impress. It tended to point up a question of balance of power when TOA gets under way actively. The two national circuits so busy in Washington—Paramount and National Theatres [20th-Fox control]—face no difficulty in meeting such an assessment. Skouras was all-out for it. E. V. Richards, Jr., titular, if not actual leader of Paramount's Southern partners, made a caustic address tearing "grass root" theatremen apart for financial indifference to national exhibitor associations; thereby he made it quite clear he was for it. Substantial independent circuits like Mitchell Wolfson's in Miami were for it. But the smaller exhibitors were not.

While the smaller man will not have to pay ten cents if his local organization decides he ought to pay less, the question is whether TOA will not find itself dependent upon affiliated interests for major sustenance.

■

In a national organization committed to a program of opposing unfriendly legislation and bans on theatre construction and remodeling and of fighting censorship, regulation and continuance of the current Federal admission tax structure, problems are joint and the front to meet them ought to be united. But it must be remembered TOA intends entering the arena of trade practices with all feet.

Article 1 of its constitution embraces this, among other purposes and objectives.

The seeds of divided interest are here. Failure to appreciate how pregnant this can be is merely to parade about in a dream world.

■

We believe some of the independents and some of the representatives of regional associations in Washington are well aware of this; that their responsibility as observers will make it required for them to weigh this possibility if and when the occasion becomes specific. In the routines of this industry, it is reasonable to assume the time will come.

Yet, TOA has a considerable opportunity at its elbow. Its future will be gauged by adherence to principles and forthrightness of action. If TOA can deliver substantially on its objectives *externally*, less satisfying results *internally* may be viewed as sufficiently rewarding.

Coming Events

Today through Monday—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers and Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Shoreham Hotel, Washington.

Sept. 30—Century Circuit con[illegible]tion, Hotel Waldorf Astoria, [illegible] York.

Sept. 30-Oct. 1—Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association annual convention, Phillips Hotel, Kansas City.

Oct. 12—Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York dinner-dance, Commodore Hotel, New York.

Oct. 14-15—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan annual meeting, Milwaukee.

Oct. 14-15—Tri-State Motion Picture Theatre Owners annual convention, Hotel Chisca, Memphis, Tenn.

Oct. 20-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers 62nd semi-annual convention, Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.

Oct. 22—Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners convention, Louisville.

Nov. 19.—Annual dinner of the Motion Picture Pioneers, Hotel Plaza, New York.

125 Exhibits at Tesma-Tedpa Meet

Washington, Sept. 24.—Joint convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association got under way here today with the setting up of 125 exhibition booths in the Shoreham Hotel.

Although registration was low today, with only 250 delegates arriving at the hotel, it was expected that the number would increase greatly tomorrow, with the end of the Jewish holidays.

The exhibition will open at 10 A.M. tomorrow morning and the opening luncheon session of the second annual joint convention will start at 12:30. The address of welcome will be made by James Russell Young, president of the District Board of Commissioners. Other speakers will be Ray Colvin, TEDPA president, and Oscar F. Neu, president of TESMA.

Benton Quits State Department Post

Washington, Sept. 24.—William Benton resigned today as Assistant Secretary of State in charge of information and culture, effective Sept. 30. In accepting Benton's resignation, President Truman made no mention of a successor.

Benton served in the State Department since Sept., 1945.

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New Heights FOR BOGART FOR BACALL

He is the hunted turned hunter. She's the girl he has to find. A spectacularly thrilling Saturday Evening Post serial hits the screen. 'Dark Passage', in the 3rd week of its 1st booking is within pennies of the N. Y. Strand's 33-year record! Get hot, Exhibitors!

WARNER BROS.

UMPHREY BOGART · LAUREN BACALL in **DARK PASSAGE**

th BRUCE BENNETT · AGNES MOOREHEAD · TOM D'ANDREA · Directed by DELMER DAVES · Produced by JERRY WALD

Screen Play by Delmer Daves • From the Novel by David Goodis • Music by Franz Waxman

14 Additional Films Get Legion Ratings

Four of 14 features reviewed by the National Legion of Decency were placed in Class A-I, four were placed in Class A-II, and six in Class B. Rated A-I were: "Along the Oregon Trail," Republic; "Black Gold," Allied Artists; "Blondie in the Dough," Columbia, and "The Tawny Pipit," Universal-International.

Rated A-II were: "Desire Me," "The Fugitive" and "Magic Town," both RKO Radio, and "Heaven Only Knows," United Artists. Rated B were: "The Devil's Envoy" (French), Superfilm; "Colonel Chabert" (French), Siritzky International; "The Murderer Lives at No. 21" (French), Mage Films; "Star Without Light" (French); "Shoe Shine" (Italian), Lopert, and "Wild Harvest," Paramount. The above were the first films to be listed under the Legion's new policy of reporting ratings bi-weekly rather than weekly.

'Jeff' Davis, 48, Was With United Artists

New Orleans, Sept. 24.—Thomas L. (Jeff) Davis, 48, branch manager here for United Artists, died last night at Baptist Hospital.

He came to New Orleans from the Atlanta office of United Artists. A native of Charlottesville, Va., Davis started his film career at the age of 18, in Philadelphia, with the old Pathe exchange and has been with UA since the company was formed.

3% Columbus Tax Likely on Monday

Columbus, O., Sept. 24.—A three per cent gross admission tax is expected to be passed on Sept. 29 by the City Council, one day before the expiration of the state tax. In order to make the measure effective immediately a six-to-one vote is needed.

Columbus theatremen lined up in opposition to the tax at a public hearing, charging that the levy singles out a single business for taxation. Their stand was presented to council members by P. J. Wood, secretary, Indepent Theatre Owners of Ohio, and John W. King, ITO attorney.

Delaware, O., Enacts New 3% City Levy

Delaware, O., Sept. 24.—The City Council has adopted a three per cent admission tax, leaving the present state rates intact. The levy, effective Oct. 1, will bring in $6,000 annually, according to city auditor Robert E. King. The tax is returnable by the 10th of each month and no exemptions are provided.

WB's George Briant Dies in New Orleans

New Orleans, Sept. 24.—George O. Briant, Warner office manager, here, for the past decade, died at his home here last Sunday.

Briant started in the industry 32 years ago when he joined First National. Previously he worked for the *New Orleans Times-Picayune.* When Warners absorbed First National, Briant joined United Artists, later returning to the former.

Canada Exhibitors Seek End of Tax

Toronto, Sept. 24.—With its annual meeting scheduled for Oct. 21, at Toronto, the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario is preparing to ask the Dominion Government to abolish the Federal war tax of 20 per cent on theatre grosses.

Because of the British film tax and foreign exchange problems, the anti-tax petition will not go forward immediately but will be pressed prior to the presentation of the 1948 budget to Commons at Ottawa, when tax revisions generally take place.

Weisz on His Own

Al Weisz, for four years art director of Donahue and Coe, here, has resigned and will leave at the end of the month to open his own New York and Hollywood offices as an independent art consultant. Weisz is known for the techniques he introduced into motion picture advertising, being responsible for many of the art campaigns used for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Enterprise.

Memphis Variety Parties

Memphis, Sept. 24.—Variety Club, Tent No. 20, announces its fall schedule of events through chief barker Herb Kohn as follows; Sunday night, Sept. 28, a screening for members and friends; Oct. 4, 18 and 25, and Nov. 8, Saturday night parties.

House Group Opens Hans Eisler Probe

Washington, Sept. 24. — The House Un-American Activities Committee today opened its three-day hearing designed to prove that Hans Eisler, film music composer, remained in this country illegally after his visa expired.

When questioned by chief committee investigator Robert E. Strip[illegible] about his membership in the C[illegible]munist Party, Eisler said that he had never been active in the party and had eventually dropped out. He stated that he had never been employed by the Soviet Government and told the committee that he now has his first citizenship papers.

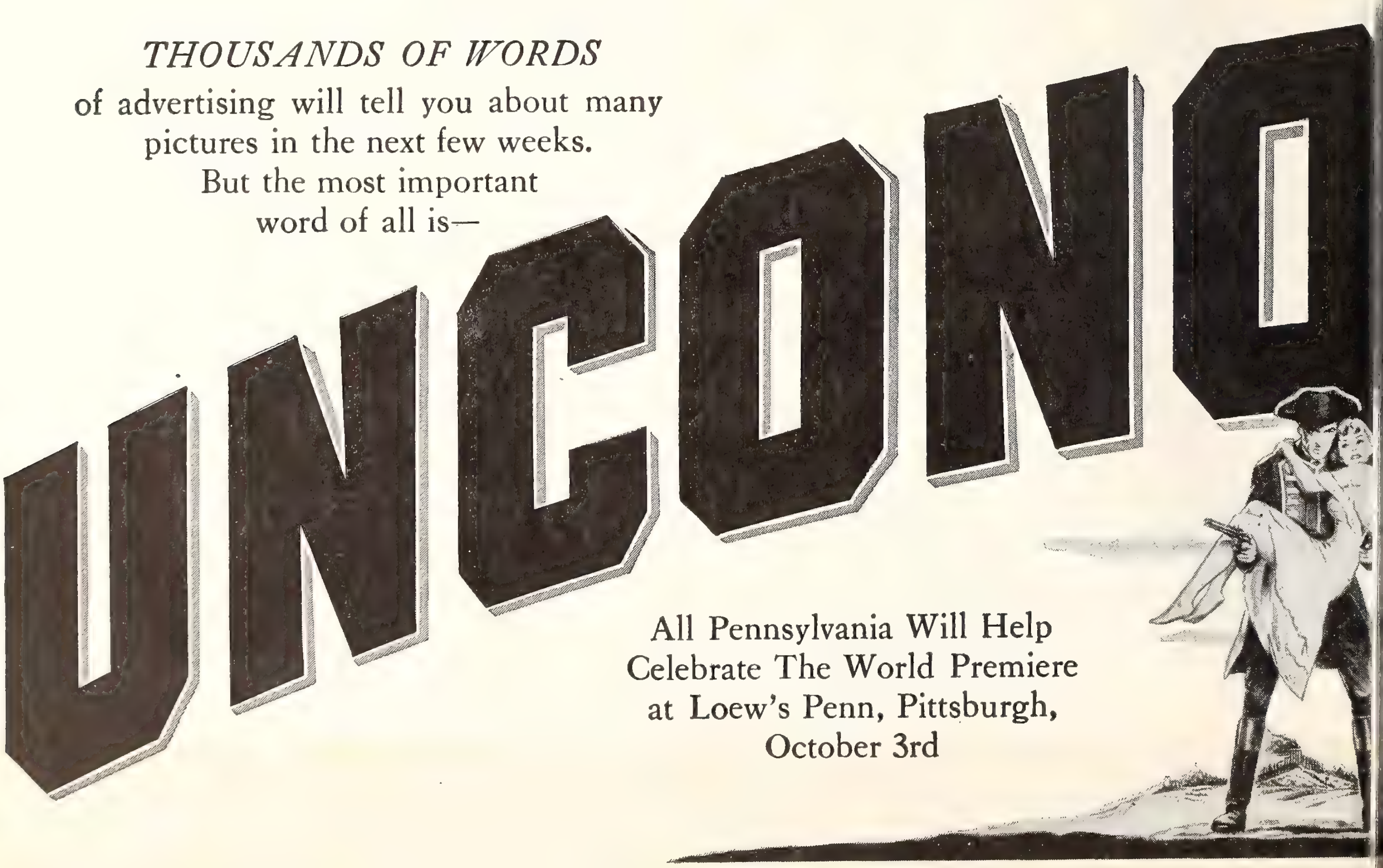
Address by Youngstein

Importance of advertising, publicity and exploitation to the individual theatre manager will be the subject of a talk which Max Youngstein, Eagle Lion's director of advertising-publicity, will deliver at Century Theatres' "Back to Showmanship" convention on Sept. 30 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

Warns of Controls

Cleveland, Sept. 24.—The film industry, radio and comic strip syndicates are inviting Federal control by continued portrayal of crime, Arthur J. Freund, American Bar Association committee chairman, told a convention of ABA's criminal law section here today. The Freund group was assigned to study the matter a year ago.

THOUSANDS OF WORDS
of advertising will tell you about many
pictures in the next few weeks.
But the most important
word of all is—



All Pennsylvania Will Help
Celebrate The World Premiere
at Loew's Penn, Pittsburgh,
October 3rd

Increased Express Rates Sanctioned

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—The U. S. Interstate Commerce Commission today approved increases in Railway Express rates ranging from one-half per cent to 53.5 per cent of present rates. Short-haul traffic will bear the greatest burden of the increases, which will be in effect for one year, or "un[illegible] further order of the Commission." [illegible] film industry uses Railway Express service extensively.

Railway Express had contended that it needed the increases to pay $70,000,000 in increased rail and labor costs, and although the ICC granted the rates requested by the Agency, it is estimated they would yield only a little more than $61,000,000 additional revenue.

Gamble Called to Food - Price Meet

Ted R. Gamble, circuit operator and president of the new Theatre Owners of America, was called to Washington yesterday for top-level advisory conferences on the nation's food prices and supply problems. An Administration program to deal with those problems is known to be in the making.

Unofficial reports here yesterday were that Gamble may be asked to take an administrative or advisory post with a Government agency which might be set up to administer an Administration program. During the last war, Gamble was in charge of war bond sales for the Treasury.

Field Grosses

(*Continued from page 1*)

not repeated heat spells, some of which reached record proportions, gripped many parts of the country. Additionally, the conventional pursuit of outdoor activities in conjunction with vacations resulted, of course, in the usual seasonal reduction in business in many of the country's big-city theatres. The third week of August was the best for the two months, bringing $17,246; the worst week was the third one of July, with $14,689 recorded.

"The Hucksters" emerged as the box-office leader of July, but gave way to "Welcome Stranger" last month. "Duel in the Sun," June's gross leader, and "Dear Ruth" tied for second place in July. "The Hucksters" dropped to second place in August, when "Dear Ruth" and "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" were tied for third place. "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" occupied third spot in July.

Others which came through as weekly leaders during July in a number of situations were "The Best Years of Our Lives," "Welcome Stranger," "The Perils of Pauline," "Fiesta," "Miracle on 34th Street" and "Possessed." Demonstrating like strength in August were "Best Years," "Brute Force," "Duel," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now" and "Life With Father."

Also scoring impressively from time to time during the two months were: "Ivy," "Great Expectations," "Buck Privates Come Home," "Honeymoon," "Time Out of Mind," "The Unfaithful," "Gone with the Wind" (reissue), "Violence," "Ladies Man," "The Jolson Story," "Gunfighters," "The Egg and I."

Also, "In Old California," "Lost Honeymoon," "The Corpse Came C.O.D.," "New Orleans," "Odd Man Out," "Black Gold," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," "Slave Girl," "Carnival in Costa Rica," "Vigilantes Return," "Desert Fury," "The Romance of Rosy Ridge," "Cry Wolf," "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty."

Also, "Kilroy Was Here," "The Other Love," "Cynthia," "Singapore," "Undercover Maisie," "Down to Earth," "Mother Wore Tights," "Crossfire," "The Trouble With Women," "Variety Girl" and "Song of the Thin Man."

Composite key city box-office reports for 1947 to date, compared with corresponding weeks of 1946, follow:

1947 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 3-4	167	$3,678,100	$22,024
Jan. 10-11	173	3,363,200	19,400
Jan. 17-18	173	3,007,300	17,383
Jan. 24-25	176	3,043,700	17,294
Jan. 31-Feb. 1	181	2,293,600	18,197
Feb. 7-8	177	2,089,600	17,495
Feb. 14-15	177	2,767,900	15,638
Feb 21-22	182	3,042,700	16,718
Feb. 28-Mar. 1	166	2,800,300	16,869
Mar. 7-8	178	2,906,400	16,328
Mar. 14-15	174	2,890,300	16,610
Mar. 21-22	173	2,922,900	16,895
Mar. 28-29	178	3,069,500	17,245
April 4-5	179	2,838,800	15,859
April 11-12	184	2,239,500	17,606
April 18-19	177	2,973,400	16,798
April 25-26	183	2,917,900	15,945
May 2-3	177	2,699,800	15,253
May 9-10	175	2,578,100	15,732
May 16-17	176	2,650,400	15,059
May 23-24	169	2,369,100	14,018
May 30-31	173	2,590,100	14,972
June 6-7	178	2,834,800	15,926
June 13-14	165	2,511,700	15,222
June 20-21	170	2,579,400	15,173
June 27-28	174	2,557,000	14,695
July 4-5	163	2,507,300	15,382
July 11-12	169	2,734,800	16,182
July 18-19	174	2,555,900	14,689
July 25-26	156	2,561,700	16,421
Aug. 1-2	160	2,511,500	15,696
Aug. 8-9	166	2,612,700	15,742
Aug. 15-16	164	2,622,300	15,989
Aug. 22-23	170	2,931,800	17,246
Aug. 29-30	164	2,786,700	16,992

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20.417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,227,000	18.390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
Mar. 1-2	164	2,106,000	18,939
Mar. 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
Mar. 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
Mar. 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
Mar. 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19.433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1	130	2,058.200	15,855
June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 28-29	159	2,599,000	16.094
July 5-6	167	2,737,500	16,392
July 12-13	154	2,944,200	19,112
July 19-20	163	2,599,300	15.928
July 26-27	157	2,702,700	17,215
Aug. 2-3	165	2,856,600	17,193
Aug. 9-10	162	2,919,700	18,023
Aug. 16-17	157	2,852,000	18,165
Aug. 23-24	167	3,078,800	18,435
Aug. 30-31	166	2,984,500	17,979

MPA Survey Ready

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—The Motion Picture Association will release through its New York office, next week, the first results of its theatre survey. The Buffalo area will be covered in the first release, with other cities to be reported on periodically.

UERED

GARY COOPER · PAULETTE GODDARD
in Cecil B. DeMille's
UNCONQUERED
Color by TECHNICOLOR
with HOWARD DA SILVA · BORIS KARLOFF · CECIL KELLAWAY · WARD BOND
Produced and Directed by Cecil B. DeMille
Screenplay by Charles Bennett, Fredric M. Frank and Jesse Lasky, Jr. Based on the Novel by Neil H. Swanson

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Down to Earth" contradicted its title by doing soaring business, and "Black Narcissus" got off profitably also, in a week made to order by the weatherman for people in show business. "Life With Father" is very strong. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 24:

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I) and BULL-DOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $7,100)
BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $10,500. (Average: $7,100)
BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,300)
BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,900)
BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I) and BULL-DOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,400)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $24,500. (Average: $18,300)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). Gross: $25,500. (Average: $17,300)
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Para. reissue) and FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Para. reissue)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,-[illegible])
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Para. reissue) and FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Para. reissue)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.000). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000)
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Para. reissue) and FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Para. reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,300)
FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS (Para. reissue) and FRENCHMAN'S CREEK (Para. reissue)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500)
GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M-reissue)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6th week. Gross: $7,500. **(Average:** $11,400)
HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,300)
HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,600)
HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,200)
HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (UA) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,300)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Downtown) (3,400) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $16,300)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Hollywood) (3,000) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $12,400)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS (Wiltern) (2,300) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $12,600)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,500)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1 00) 4th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,700)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,700)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,800)
THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,900)
THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,800)
THE UNFINISHED DANCE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $21,200)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.) and DANGER STREET (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,000)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,000)

CHICAGO

With only one exception, "Northwest Outpost" and Freddy Martin on the stage of the Oriental, holdovers blanket the Loop. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 25:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)
CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $26,000)
CRY WOLF (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,500) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,000)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,500)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STATE LAKE (2,700) ($1.25) 5th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $30,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c) 3rd week. On stage: Virginia O'Brien. Gross: $49,000. (Average: $52,000)
NORTHWEST OUTPOST (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,300) (95c). On stage: Freddy Martin Orchestra. Gross: $43,000. (Average: $40,000)
THE ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE (M-G-M)—GARRICK (1,000) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,500)
THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,080) (95c) 8th week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $17,500)
WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c) 8th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

BOSTON

Cool weather stepped up grosses generally but only gradually. The best business in the Hub was only slightly above averages, but was steady. Noon-to-closing business was reassuring to most managers. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 24:

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,200)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,500)
HIGH CONQUEST (Mono.)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show, Sammy Kaye and band. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $27,700)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and THE TRESPASSER (Rep.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $28,500)
SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I and TOO MANY WINNERS (E-L)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,000)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,300)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,200)

Review

"Unconquered"

(Cecil B. De Mille Productions-Paramount)

CECIL B. De Mille's latest venture into the realm of American history is a big and splashy show, Technicolored to the hilt and authorized to boast of an important cast in which Gary Cooper and Paulette Goddard are the stars. The critical approach to "Unconquered" is most authoritatively arrived at by observing it is very typical De Mille.

Showmen who play his pictures—"The Story of Dr. Wassell" was the last—have their box-office experience to guide them. Where they have done well before, they should enjoy a similar experience now. De Mille's latest bears all the trappings of an important money attraction for rank-and-file audiences.

The story here takes place in 1763 when American colonists are pushing Westward. Howard Da Silva is the trader-traitor who is in cahoots with the Indians. From them he gets furs. From him they get guns and firewater. The advancing settlers, gradually pushing the tribes further West, threaten to interrupt Da Silva's trading. His device is an Indian war designed to wipe out the invading whites and to restore "business as usual."

Practically as a one-man army, Cooper sets out to foil this plot and, heroically, succeeds. Aside from the affairs of empire which set Da Silva on one side and Cooper on the other, their paths cross romantically by way of Miss Goddard, who is attractive enough to make the effort worthwhile. She is a slave who has chosen the New World to an English gallows for complicity in a murder. On shipboard, Cooper buys and sets her free, but plot convolutions keep her uninformed through Da Silva's persistent villainy. Their three-way adventures are intertwined throughout the pat story, ending in Da Silva's death and completion of the love match between Cooper and the girl.

"Unconquered" covers a good deal of ground and consumes a good deal of footage in doing it. At 146 minutes, the attraction is considerably overlength, a state of affairs which inevitably detracts from story compactness. There are vivid battle scenes climaxed in the siege of Fort Pitt, a good deal of shooting, much blood-letting, in color, and an exciting escape through the rapids with the Indians in hot pursuit.

For all its pretentiousness, "Unconquered" is synthetic dramatically. Its situations are contrived with dovetail convenience and its performances never get any better than surface deep. Technically superb, and bearing the usual marks of De Mille's careful craftsmanship, his picture lacks warmth and believability.

But its production values are of high order. Cast power, reaching beyond its stars, embraces Cecil Kellaway, Ward Bond, Katherine De Mille, Henry Wilcoxon, Boris Karloff and others, as well as Da Silva. The cast represents marquee values which must not be discounted, nor must the size of the canvas on which "Unconquered" is displayed be ignored. Charles Bennett, Fredric M. Frank and Jesse Lasky, Jr., wrote the script, from a novel by Neil H. Swanson, for De Mille's production and direction. Ray Rennahan's camerawork is one of the attraction's decided assets.

Running time, 146 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

PHILADELPHIA

Cooler weather appears to be good for business, with two new bookings, "Dark Passage" and "Down to Earth " doing above-average business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 23-25:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $27,000)
CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $13,800)
DARK PASSAGE (WB)—EARLE (3,[illegible] (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $32,500. (Average: $31,700)
DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $29,500)
DESERT FURY (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)
THE HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,600)
KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25) 5th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average at regular prices: $21,000)
LURED (UA)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $12,700)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—KEITH (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,200)
VARIETY GIRL (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000)

BUFFALO

"Life with Father" put the Hippodrome in the upper brackets. "The Arnelo Affair," helped by a stage show, gave the Buffalo one of its best grosses in months. Weather has been pleasant. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 27:

ARNELO AFFAIR (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (Advanced prices). Tex Beneke and the Glenn Miller Orchestra in stage show. Gross: $31,000. (Average at 40c-50c-60c-70c: $18,000)
DEEP VALLEY (WB) and JUNGLE FLIGHT (Para.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $5,500)
LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (Advanced prices). Gross: $21,100. (Average at 40c-50c-60c-70c: $10,000)
MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $17,000)
RED STALLION (E-L) and LOST HONEYMOON (E-L)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $15,000)
THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME (RKO Radio) and THE GHOST GOES WILD (Rep.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Film business picked up generally as the weather turned cooler. "Dear Ruth" and "Crossfire" led the field with good first weeks, both being held over. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 25:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,500)
DEAR RUTH (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)
I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 3rd week (moved over from Radio City). Gross: $5,300. (Average: $5,600)
ODD MAN OUT (U-I)—CENTURY (1,500) (50c-70c). Gross: $5,600. (Average: $7,300)
THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,500)
THE VIGILANTES RETURN (U-I)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,400)
WILD HARVEST (Para.)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

UA-Odeon

(Continued from page 1)

offer to sell to Rank was advanced as a possible solution for the stalemate on the booking of UA product in the Odeon circuit, which has persisted since the first of the year and which neither Kelly nor Gradwell L. Sears, UA president, could break. Kelly recently obtained bookings for seven UA pictures on the Rank-controlled Gaumont-British circuit but the Odeon situation remains unchanged.

Despite UA's large interest in Odeon, it has no voice in management or operating policies, which are completely controlled by Rank. Because of that situation, it is known that New York and West Coast banks active in film financing regard UA's Odeon investment skeptically and feel that it should be liquidated and placed to better advantage for the company.

The situation has had some effect recentlv on UA's efforts to establish a $5,000,000 credit for financing its independent producers.

Kelly could not be reached yesterday for comment on the reports.

Sears, Rathvon to Discuss UA-RKO Film Deal on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 24. — Negotiations initiated in New York for United Artists to purchase RKO Radio product will be carried forward here between UA president Gradwell L. Sears and RKO president N. Peter Rathvon, both companies confirmed today.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported yesterday that seven features with an inventory value of $9,000,000 are being negotiated for by United Artists for outright purchase from RKO Radio to relieve an impending product shortage.

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Johnston, Nelson

(Continued from page 1)

officials, or even plans for further meetings.

They agreed to continue "in close touch," an MPA spokesman said, "but otherwise it was a general review of recent developments." He indicated that nothing definite could be planned on the trip to Britain until there is some idea of when Johnston's physical condition will be up to the trip.

SIMPP officials said that Nelson's original plans called only for talks with Johnston, and did not include conversations with Government officials, but admitted that that might have changed.

Meanwhile, indications developed that a State Department decision on the legality of the British tax might be getting considerablv closer.

A Department official said that there had been "quite a flurry of activity on the matter recently" and that top-level consideration had been given to the industry's contention that the tax violates the three existing Anglo-American trade agreements, though no top-level decision was ready yet. He said such a decision was "weeks off," but later interpreted that to mean "definitely not this week and probably not the week after."

It was indicated that the Department's lawyers have agreed that the tax does not violate the double taxation treaty, since it is an *ad valorem* duty and not an income tax. However, no inkling could be obtained of the lawyers' views on whether it violates the reciprocal trade agreement or the British loan pact.

Gulf Theatres Open

(Continued from page 1)

terday lashed sections of Florida having moved over from the Gulf of Mexico and going Northward. The Carolinas have been alerted, but there are no indications that the Gulf Coast area will again fall victim to the torrential rains and hurricane gales—at least not immediately.

Thus far no word has been received here of any serious theatre losses in the territory as a result of last week's weather. Damage to exchanges was limited to the collapse of a storage garage adjoining the RKO Radio building, here, with several automobiles owned by Film Row personnel being crushed.

A number of film industry workers suffered even more serious personal losses. Among them are Ray del Rio, salesman for Eagle-Lion, whose Waverly, Miss., home was completely destroyed by the winds, and Henry Glover of RKO Radio, here, whose recently-purchased home in Bucktown was lost.

Australian Tax

(Continued from page 1)

non-negotiable purposes with the exception of film production in that country. Presumably, films to be made in Australia could be exported and their earnings outside the country would be free of restrictions.

The Australian Bank, foreign department executives said, already is withholding one-third of the remittances of American film companies, although the monetary agreement between the companies and Australia has not yet been concluded.

Color Productions

(Continued from page 1)

has cancelled arrangements which were in their final stages for the start of a Technicolor production and had abandoned the idea of shooting another in color when it goes before the cameras in the next month or six weeks. The decisions to stick to black-and-white in both cases, he said, were arrived at solely on the basis of the need to effect production economies.

Similar stories were to be heard at several other home offices where it was estimated that, except for economy pressure, six to 10 features might have been started before color cameras since the imposition of the British film tax.

Laud MPA's 'Power'

(Continued from page 1)

ments have been received are: Fred Wehrenberg, board chairman of the Theatre Owners of America; Trueman T. Rembusch, president of Indiana Allied; Hugh W. Bruen, trustee of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners; Leonard Goldberg, president of Independent Exhibitors, Inc., Massachusetts; T. G. Evans, executive secretary of Iowa-Nebraska Allied; Oscar W. Hanson, Omaha exhibitor representative; E. C. Grainger of M. A. Shea Theatrical Enterprises; Leo T. Jones, Upper Sandusky, O., theatre owner, among others.

Typical of comment was that of Wehrenberg, who wrote: "'Power Behind the Nation' is an inspiring picture on Americanism. It offers us a fine opportunity to show what a united industry can do for the American way of life and to meet any attacks leveled against our industry."

Hellinger-Selznick

(Continued from page 1)

nounced by Daniel T. O'Shea and Neil Agnew on behalf of Selznick Enterprises and by Hellinger and A. Morgan Maree on behalf of Mark Hellinger Productions, Inc. Hellinger had released through Universal-International. It is Selznick's first outside deal for the distribution of product of another independent.

The contract calls for six pictures to be delivered at the rate of three per year. The first will go before the cameras next spring. Hellinger's current picture, "The Naked City," starring Barry Fitzgerald, is to be his last picture for Universal.

Hellinger has an exclusive arrangement with Hemingway whereby he will make four pictures based on Hemingway's stories within the next eight years. Bogart, who will star in one of the Hemingway stories, is a stockholder in Hellinger Productions, and is under exclusive contract to that organization, except for one picture yearly for Warner Brothers. Burt Lancaster is also under contract to Hellinger.

A number of Selznick stars also will appear in the Hellinger pictures. Selznick contract players include Gregory Peck, Joseph Cotten, Jennifer Jones, Dorothy McGuire, Shirley Temple, Valli, Robert Young, Louis Jourdan, Robert Mitchum, Guy Madison and others.

The contract was negotiated on behalf of the Selznick enterprises by O'Shea, for Vanguard, and by E. L. Scanlon for SRO; and for Hellinger by Maree and Martin Gang.

WB Club Election In N. Y. on Oct. 18

Annual election of the board of directors and officers of the Warner Club, Inc., national welfare organization of Warner employes, will be held on Oct. 18 in New York, it is announced by Stuart H. Aarons, current president. The meeting, followed by the annual luncheon, will be attended by delegates from the field, including the first delegation from the West Coast since the war.

In addition to the New York unit, the club has branches at the Burbank studio and in all cities where Warner exchanges or theatre zone headquarters are located.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	EAGLE-LION	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Aug. 24			(Aug. Releases) THE HUCKSTERS Clark Gable Deborah Kerr D—115 min. (728) (Rev. 6/27/47)		VARIETY GIRL Bing Crosby Bob Hope M—93 min. (4618) (Rev. 7/14/47)		(Block 6) THE WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D—71 min. (727) (Rev. 5/14/47)	(Aug. Release) (George Jessel) I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW (Color) June Haver M—104 min. (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Aug. Releases) (Federal Films) CARNEGIE HALL Marsha Hunt William Prince M—134 min. (Rev. 2/27/47)	(Aug. Releases) BRUTE FORCE Burt Lancaster Charles Bickford Hume Cronyn D—98 min. (620) (Rev. 6/18/47)	
Aug. 31	LAST OF THE REDMEN (Color) Jon Hall Michael O'Shea D—77 min. (837)		ROMANCE OF ROSY RIDGE Van Johnson D—105 min. (729) (Rev. 7/7/47)	(Allied Artists) BLACK GOLD Anthony Quinn Katherine DeMille D—92 mins. (Rev. 6/25/47)		ALONG THE OREGON TRAIL (Color) Monte Hale O—64 min. (651) (Rev. 9/8/47)	THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME Robert Young Susan Hayward D—95 min. (726) (Rev. 5/19/47)		(Enterprise) BODY AND SOUL John Garfield Lilli Palmer D—104 min. (Rev. 8/13/47)		
Sept. 7	BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK Ron Randell D—65 min. (821)	GREEN FOR DANGER Trevor Howard Rosamund John D—91 min. (106) (Rev. 7/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) SONG OF THE THIN MAN William Powell Myrna Loy D—86 min. (801) (Rev. 7/23/47)	HIGH TIDE Lee Tracy Don Castle D—70 min. (Rev. 8/5/47)		EXPOSED Adele Mara Robert Scott D—59 min. (Rev. 9/16/47)	DESPERATE Audrey Long D—71 min. (728) (Rev. 5/20/47) DICK TRACY'S DILEMMA Ralph Byrd D—60 min. (729) (Rev. 5/22/47)		HAL ROACH COMEDY CARNIVAL (Color) Walter Abel Marie Wilson C—112 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	SLAVE GIRL (Color) George Brent Yvonne DeCarlo C—80 min. (623) (Rev. 7/16/47)	DEEP VALLEY Ida Lupino Dane Clark D—106 min. (701) (Rev. 7/30/47)
Sept. 14			THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Color) Margaret O'Brien Cyd Charisse D—101 min. (802) (Rev. 7/30/47)	JOE PALOOKA IN THE KNOCK-OUT Leon Errol Elyse Knox C—72 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)		DRIFTWOOD Ruth Warrick Walter Brennan D—90 min. (621)	THUNDER MOUNTAIN Tim Holt O—60 min. (730) (Rev. 5/23/47)	(Sept. Releases) MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (Color) Betty Grable Dan Dailey, Jr. D—107 min. (Rev. 8/19/47)			LIFE WITH FATHER (Pre-release) (Color) William Powell Irene Dunne C—118 min. (702) (Rev. 8/15/47)
Sept. 21	WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL Adele Jergens C—68 min.	BURY ME DEAD Mark Daniels June Lockhart D OUT OF THE BLUE Virginia Mayo George Brent Carole Landis C—91 min. (Rev. 8/29/47)	THE ARNELO AFFAIR John Hodiak George Murphy D—87 min. (803) (Rev. 2/14/47)	PRAIRIE EXPRESS Johnny Mack Brown O	WILD HARVEST Alan Ladd Dorothy Lamour D—92 min. (4701) (Rev. 8/4/47)			KISS OF DEATH Victor Mature Brian Donlevy D—98 min. (Rev. 8/14/47)	(Sept. Releases) LURED George Sanders Lucille Ball D—102 min. (Rev. 7/16/47)	(Sept. Releases) SOMETHING IN THE WIND Deanna Durbin John Dall Donald O'Connor M—88 min. (621) (Rev. 7/21/47)	
Sept. 28		BLACK HILLS Eddie Dean O		KING OF THE BANDITS Gilbert Roland O	ADVENTURE ISLAND (Color) Rory Calhoun Paul Kelly D—67 min. (4702) (Rev. 8/11/47)	WILD FRONTIER Alan "Rocky" Lane Jack Holt O—59 min. (751)	(Block 1: 47-48) SEVEN KEYS TO BALDPATE Phillip Terry Jacqueline White C—68 min. (804) (Rev. 6/10/47)	(Sol. M. Wurtzel) SECOND CHANCE Kent Taylor Louise Currie D—62 min. (726) (Rev. 7/18/47)	HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS Robert Cummings Brian Donlevy D—73 min. (Rev. 7/28/47)	SINGAPORE Fred MacMurray Ava Gardner D—79 min. (622) (Rev. 8/7/47)	DARK PASSAGE Humphrey Bogart Lauren Bacall D—106 min. (703) (Rev. 9/4/47)
Oct. 5	KEY WITNESS John Beal Trudy Marshall D—67 min.	RETURN OF THE LASH Al "Lash" La Rue Al St. John O		BOWERY BUCKAROOS Leo Gorcey C	WELCOME STRANGER Bing Crosby Barry Fitzgerald D—106 min. (Rev. 4/28/47)		THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY SOXER Cary Grant Myrna Loy Shirley Temple C—95 min. (801) (Rev. 6/3/47)	(Reissue) HOW GREEN WAS MY VALLEY Walter Pidgeon Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (727) (Rev. 10/29/41)	CHRISTMAS EVE George Raft Joan Blondell George Brent D	FRIEDA David Farrar Flora Robson D—98 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)	
Oct. 12	BUCKAROO FROM POWDER RIVER Chas. Starret Smiley Burnette O-55 min.	GUN LAW O	(Oct. Releases) MERTON OF THE MOVIES Red Skelton Virginia O'Brien C—82 min. (805) (Rev. 7/18/47)	THE RED HORNET Roland Winters D		ON THE OLD SPANISH TRAIL (Color) Roy Rogers O—75 min. (648)	UNDER THE TONTO RIM Tim Holt Nan Leslie O—61 min. (805) (Rev. 6/17/47)	(Reissue) SWAMP WATER Walter Huston D—89 min. (728) (Rev.10/20/41)			(Reissue) BADMEN OF MISSOURI Dennis Morgan Jane Wyman D—71 min. (704) (Rev. 7/28/41)
Oct. 19	BLONDIE IN THE DOUGH Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 min.		SONG OF LOVE Katharine Hepburn Robert Walker D—119 min. (804) (Rev. 7/21/47)				RIFF-RAFF Pat O'Brien Anne Jeffreys D—80 min. (803) (Rev. 6/12/47)	(Oct. Releases) FOXES OF HARROW Rex Harrison Maureen O'Hara D—118 min. (Rev. 9/23/47)	(Oct. Releases) MAD WEDNESDAY Harold Lloyd Frances Ramsden C—89 min. (Rev. 2/18/47)	(Oct. Releases) RIDE THE PINK HORSE Robert Montgomery Wanda Hendrix Thomas Gomez D—101 min. (Rev. 9/10/47)	(Reissue) EACH DAWN I DIE James Cagney George Raft D—84 min. (705) (Rev. 7/21/39)
Oct. 26	SWEET GENEVIEVE Jean Porter Jimmy Lydon M—68 min.		(Reprint) THE WOMEN Norma Shearer Joan Crawford Paulette Goddard D—135 min. (Rev. 8/29/39) DESIRE ME Greer Garson Richard Hart D		GOLDEN EARRINGS Marlene Dietrich Ray Milland D—100 min. (Rev. 8/28/47)		CROSSFIRE Robert Young Robert Mitchum D—86 min. (802) (Rev. 6/25/47)	NIGHTMARE ALLEY Tyrone Power Joan Blondell D	MONSIEUR VERDOUX Charles Chaplin Martha Raye C—123 min. (Rev. 4/14/47)	BLACK NARCISSUS (Color) Deborah Kerr David Farrar D—98 min. (Rev. 7/8/47)	THE UNSUSPECTED Joan Caulfield Claude Rains D-103 min. (706) (Rev. 9/17/47)
Nov. 2											

[*Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram* *(M) Musical (C) Comedy (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.)* Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*]

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V[illegible]. 62. NO. 62 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1947 TEN CENTS

Television in Para. Houses Hinges on Test

Widespread Program Is Planned, If Satisfactory

Paramount will develop a wide-scale television program for its affiliates' theatres in the event its forthcoming experiments at the company's New York theatre "showcase" brings sufficient favorable audience reaction to warrant such action, Paul Raibourn, president of the company's video subsidiary, Television Productions, disclosed here yesterday.

Sole purpose of the test at the Paramount Theatre here is to determine the public's appreciation of the new "art form," Raibourn stressed, explaining

(*Continued on page* 6)

RKO Goes in if TOA Is 'Representative'

Although the circuit has determined there are no legal obstacles in its path, RKO Theatres will study the strength of rival exhibitor organizations before deciding on membership in the new Theatre Owners of America, the idea being to avoid involvement in differences among various exhibitor groups, Malcolm Kingsberg, president of the circuit, said here yesterday.

If results of the study show that TOA is "truly representative" of the nation's exhibition, RKO will go along, he reported.

Present indications are that Loew's and Warner Theatres are remaining aloof from the new outfit.

Previously both Loew's and RKO

(*Continued on page* 7)

Colvin Reelected TEDPA President

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Ray G. Colvin was reelected president of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association for a two-year term at a TEDPA meeting today at the opening of the joint TESMA-TEDPA convention here.

The Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers' Association will meet tomorrow to elect officers. Next joint convention of the two groups will be

(*Continued on page* 7)

Standard Time Returns Sunday

Clocks in some 16 states, including New York, will be turned back one hour this Sunday at two A.M. when Eastern Standard Time returns.

Theatre owners for years have repeatedly protested DST on the grounds that it permits additional daylight outdoor competition.

'306' Strike in A Week is Seen

A strike of more than 800 projectionists against theatres of RKO, Loew's, Warner and Paramount theatres here "within a week" was predicted last night by Herman Gelber, president of Local No. 306, IATSE, following a breakdown of negotiations between the union and circuit representatives.

The prediction was made by Gelber as he emerged from the negotiating room at the Hotel Astor, where the union and cir-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Delay Studio 'Peace' Meeting to Oct. 7

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—AFL president William Green today informed major producers that the conference called for Oct. 4 in San Francisco, between producer representatives and international presidents of unions involved in the year-old jurisdictional dispute here, has been postponed until Oct. 7.

Producers indicated that the change in date will not affect their previously given acceptance, providing that all interested AFL executives participate.

Postponement of the meeting came on the eve of the first anniversary of the strike by the Conference of Studio Unions against IATSE-held stu-

(*Continued on page* 7)

200 Runs Set for MPA's 'The Nation'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Motion Picture Association officials expect to set up a simultaneous opening in 200 key-city theatres on Oct. 11 for the association's first sponsored film, "The Power Behind the Nation."

MPA reports that the five national

(*Continued on page* 7)

ASCAP EXTENDS PACTS TO FEB. 1

Theatres Get 4 Months Grace Instead of 6 Asked; Lower Rates Seen

By SHERWIN KANE

Exhibitors will be given a stay until next Feb. 1 of payment of increased music license fees, the board of directors of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers agreed at its meeting here yesterday.

Ascap attached no condition to the extension of time granted but there is every expectation within the Society that exhibitor representatives will negotiate with the Ascap theatre committee during the stay period.

Therefore, it is apparent, that, being willing to negotiate, Ascap does not regard the 300 per cent theatre rate increases which it announced last month, as unchangeable, and that exhibitors have an excellent chance of winning reductions therefrom.

In fact, there was considerable evidence of reasonable heads prevailing at the board meeting yesterday. While there was some resistance to any further delay beyond the 60-day extension of existing Ascap theatre licenses, which the Society granted earlier, others recommended the granting of the full six months' delay asked by the Theatre Owners of America in

(*Continued on page* 7)

President Names Skouras to Board

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox head, was named today by President Truman as one of the members of the newly-created 26-man Citizens' Committee on Food Conservation.

Spyros Skouras

The Committee is charged with considering immediate food problems and effecting ways and means to conserve food.

Ted Gamble, president of the Theatre Owners of America, has been here conferring with top administration officials on the food conservation prob-

(*Continued on page* 7)

National E-L Sales Meet This Weekend

A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle Lion Films, will preside tomorrow and Sunday at the company's first over-all sales meeting to be held since his recent realignment of the sales organization. The meeting will be held at the Hotel Warwick, New York, and will be attended by key field personnel, home office executives, Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of pro-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Managerial Course Launched by Loew's

Under direct supervision of Joseph R. Vogel, vice-president and general manager, and Oscar A. Doob, second in command, Loew's Theatres yesterday launched an extensive course in theatre operations for managers and assistant and student managers of the circuit's 69 houses in New York, with top home-office department heads as instructors.

Further efficiency of operation, ob-

(*Continued on page* 7)

N. Y. ITO Wants No Ascap 'Favors'

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York "wants no favors from Ascap," and "will fight it out in the courts."

Max A. Cohen, vice-president, who, with ITO president Harry Brandt, attended the Theatre Owners of America convention in Washington last week as "an observer," made that

(*Continued on page* 7)

3 Reviews Today

"Desire Me," "My Father's House" and "Bury Me Dead" are reviewed on page 8. Key city gross reports are on page 6.

$2,000,000 Ansco Color-Film Plant

Binghamton, N. Y., Sept. 25.—The Ansco division of General Aniline and Film Corp. will start construction next month on a $2,000,000 plant to make color motion pictures. The plant is scheduled to be completed in 1949. E. Allan Williford, Ansco general manager and a vice-president of General Aniline, said the projected color film plant is part of a General Aniline expansion program.

Ansco's entry into the Hollywood market is limited because of a lack of production facilities at its plants in Binghamton. Ansco has contracted with smaller producers to supply them with color film, but it has no contracts with major producers. General Aniline is controlled by the Government through the office of the U. S. Attorney-General.

Nelson Meets with SIMPP Members

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, arrived here last night from Washington to confer with Eastern representatives of SIMPP members. He is expected to remain several days.

Nelson met on Wednesday in Washington with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston in what both sides are said to agree was "a very general discussion" of the British situation and other developments abroad.

In Washington, it was said that there is some indication that both MPA and SIMPP now feel that any delay in starting talks with the British on the tax favors the industry.

"We can't be worse off than we are now," one film official in Washington said, "and developments might come along in Britain or in the general international picture or here in our own Government that will better our position considerably."

Shelby Owners Hit 3% Admission Tax

Shelby, O., Sept. 25. — Exhibitors here are registering a vigorous protest against a three per cent admission tax ordinance passed by the City Council, contending that the impost is unjust and discriminatory, and levied against a legitimate business that has definitely become a part of "the American way of life." They point out that drive-in theatres, circuses and carnivals operating outside city limits are not subject to the tax, since neither the county nor the township can assess such a tax.

$104,879 in Conn. Taxes

Hartford, Sept. 25. — Amusement taxes in Connecticut for the last fiscal year amounted to $104,876, the State Tax Department reports.

Tom Lucy Quits MGM

Atlanta, Sept. 25—Tom Lucy, assistant M-G-M branch manager here for the last 19 years, has resigned to join the Independent Booking Office, owned by Tom Jones.

Personal Mention

EDWARD C. DOWDEN of Loew's is chairman of Brooklyn's official reception to the Dodgers, National League pennant winners, today at Borough Hall, Brooklyn.

•

James B. Hickey, president of the J. B. Hickey Realty Co., Hollywood, and Leigh Shelton, daughter of Mrs. Walter Sutton, were married last night in the Wee Kirk o' the Heather, Glendale. The groom is the son of Duke Hickey of the MPAA community relations division and Mrs. Stanley Johnston of Minneapolis.

•

Tyree Dillard, Jr., former MGM attorney, and Mrs. Dillard are parents of a son born recently at Westhampton Beach, L. I.

•

Rube Jackter, Columbia assistant general sales manager, will leave here Sunday for visits to Midwest exchanges.

•

Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres, is in Washington attending the Tesma-Tedpa convention.

•

Dave Siegel, Triumph Pictures president, is expected in town from Hollywood over the weekend.

•

Jerry Bresler, producer, and Michael Gordon, director, are here from the Coast.

•

Dave A. Epstein is due in New York Monday from the Coast.

•

SAM SEIDELMAN, Eagle Lion foreign operations general manager, is expected back in New York today from Mexico City.

•

M. J. McLaughlin heads Loew's personnel retirement plan department at the home office. It was inadvertently stated in this column on Tuesday that Phil Gersh, a member of the staff, is head of the department.

•

Lewis Allen, director for Hal Wallis Prod., returned here Wednesday from England on the *SS Queen Mary*. Chico Marx, Guy Bolton, film writer, and Mrs. Bolton also were passengers.

•

F. J. A. McCarthy, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, and Pete Rosin, Southern district manager, were visitors at the Charlotte branch this week.

•

Ralph Peckham, Film Classics Atlanta branch manager, has returned to his post there after a visit to New York.

•

Ted Oberfelder, American Broadcasting assistant director of advertising and publicity, will leave here for Chicago on Sunday.

•

Arthur Freed, M-G-M producer, who is in town from the Coast, is staying at the Hampshire House.

•

Hal Roach is due here Monday from Hollywood.

Delay Minn. Hearing In Percentage Suit

Minneapolis, Sept. 25.—Hearing on the percentage suits of major film companies against Volk Brothers, originally scheduled for tomorrow, has been postponed until Oct. 21, and so has a hearing in Volk Brothers' counter-suit seeking to enjoin the companies from enforcing contracts from bringing or threatening fraud action against the exhibitors.

The Volk suit in Federal Court is directed against Paramount, Warner Brothers, M-G-M, RKO Radio, Universal, United Artists and Columbia. It charges the majors with price-fixing in violation of the consent decree and seeks to have the court hold distributor contracts invalid.

3 US Films Place At Cannes Fair

Paris, Sept. 25.—Three of six first prizes were awarded to American films today in international competition at the 1947 Cannes film festival. RKO Radio's "Crossfire," M-G-M's "Ziegfeld Follies" and Walt Disney's "Dumbo" were the prize-winning U.S. entries for the best social film, musical comedy and animated cartoon, respectively.

Awards for the best psychological or love film and the best adventure or detective picture went to France's "Antoine and Antoinette" and "The Hated," respectively.

Dudelson Takes Dual UA Ohio Position

Cleveland, Sept. 25.—In line with what is termed a "manpower conservation program," United Artists district manager Moe Dudelson will manage the Cleveland branch office as well as supervise his district, which also includes Cincinnati and Detroit.

A. M. Goodman will resume his former post as city sales manager and Joe Krenitz will cover the Toledo territory as successor to Marty Seed.

UA Gets 'Roosevelt'; Campaign Meets On

Following approval of United Artists' board of directors of a distribution deal on "The Roosevelt Story," Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity director, held a meeting of his staff yesterday to map an over-all campaign for the picture. Martin Levine and Oliver Unger, co-producers of the film, attended the conference.

Don Clark with New Booking Combine

Dallas, Sept. 25.—Don Clark has resigned from Screen Guild of Texas to join United Theatres Service Corp., new buying and booking unit for Texas exhibitors.

Clark was with Paramount at Cleveland and Cincinnati for four years and for a year was with Loew Theatres at Cleveland.

Form New Law Firm

Herbert J. Fabricant, active in film affairs as a staff member of the law firm of Weisman, Celler, Quinn and Spett; O. John Rogge, formerly Assistant U. S. Attorney General, and Murray A. Gordon and Robert H. Goldman have formed a new law firm, Rogge, Fabricant, Gordon and Goldman. Offices will be maintained in New York, Washington and Paris.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

3rd MONTH ON B'WAY!
DORE SCHARY presents
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
DAVID NIVEN
'THE OTHER LOVE'
IN PERSON
LEW PARKER
Extra!
THREE FLAMES
Plus OTHERS

LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
IN HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Desert Fury
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
in Person
"MR TEMPO"
DESI ARNAZ
And His Orchestra
DULCINA
RUDY CARDENAS
THE 3 NONCHALANTS
Extra MARION HUTTON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATUR NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
HENRY FONDA • BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE • ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT

The Foxes of Harrow
Starring
REX HARRISON · MAUREEN O'HARA
20th CENTURY-FOX
ON STAGE!
in Person!
MILTON BERLE
and Others!
ROXY
7th Ave & 50th St.

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WHETHER THE WOMEN GO FOR THE OLD LENGTH OR THE NEW LENGTH–

THEY'LL ALL GO FOR

GREER GARSON

in M-G-M's

DESIRE ME"

A new Garson picture is always top news for the fans! They'll adore their beloved star in a daringly different love story as wild as the men who fought for her.

Desired by **ROBERT MITCHUM**

loving, fighting, dangerous

Desired by **RICHARD HART**

new Broadway stage sensation

Screen Play by Marguerite Roberts and
Zoë Akins • Adaptation by Casey Robinson
From a Novel by Leonhard Frank

PRODUCED BY
ARTHUR HORNBLOW, Jr.
A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

Fort Lee Slates 3 Films a Year

Gateway Productions, affiliate of the new Fort Lee Studios, Fort Lee, N. J., will have a producing schedule of three pictures a year. The studios can accommodate nine pictures a year and thus will have time open to outside producers.

Dr. O. A. Peters, president of both Gateway and Fort Lee studios, said the plant is now being modernized at a cost of $250,000 and will be ready for production in about two months.

Peters said the studios will serve to bring a part of the producing industry to the New York area in line with Mayor O'Dwyer's current aims in that direction. The FL site was one of the first to be used when the industry was in its infancy, and between the time it closed as a studio many years ago and the present it was used as a storage place for stage properties and for manufacturing sets.

Pictures to be produced by Gateway, Peters said, will be budgeted at $500,000 and over. As yet no arrangements have been made for distribution although Peters and Gateway board chairman Thomas Taglianetti are currently negotiating with several distributors. Rental of studios, Peters said, will be at a cost of about $500 per day.

'Delinquency' Charge Shuts Detroit House

DETROIT, Sept. 25.—Harry Lankowsky, operator of the Amo Theatre, a neighborhood house, has been ordered by Ordinance Judge John D. Watts to close the theatre for operating without a license.

Mrs. Eleanor Hutzel, head of the policewomen's division, who said that police had received numerous complaints of delinquency at the Amo, said Lankowsky continued to operate after police revoked the license three months ago.

Lankowsky was placed on six months' probation. Hearing is set for Oct. 6 on his motion for a new trial.

Martin Block Series Adds to MGM Slate

Six single-reel musicals, to be known as the "Martin Block Musical Merry-Go-Round," will be added to M-G-M's 1947-48 short subject schedule, Max Weinberg, M-G-M shorts subject manager, announced here yesterday. Herb Moulton, who will produce, is scheduled to start work on the initial short within a month, Weinberg added.

Block, a local "disc-jockey" in a 380-station hook-up, will present "name" bands and vocalists as well as guest stars in the series.

New Devonshire Deal

BOSTON, Sept. 25. — Devonshire Films has granted a franchise for the Memphis territory to Tower Pictures of Dallas, operated by Harold Schwartz. Schwartz has been releasing Devonshire product in Dallas.

'War Party' to RKO

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—RKO Radio has completed a deal for the distribution of "War Party," independently produced by John Ford and Merian C. Cooper.

Academy Members At All-Time High

Hollywood, Sept. 25. — The board of directors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has approved 78 additional membership applications, raising the total roster to 1,808, which is an all-time high.

Kelly Clarifies UA Position in Odeon

Arthur W. Kelly, United Artists executive vice-president, yesterday clarified several inaccuracies concerning UA's holdings in Odeon circuit, England, contained in a MOTION PICTURE DAILY story published yesterday.

Conceding that UA's Odeon interest is for sale if an acceptable offer is made, Kelly said UA holds 83,000 ordinary shares of Odeon Theatres, Ltd., which is listed on the London board, and which have a market valuation of about $480,000. In addition, UA owns a 50 per cent interest in Odeon Cinema Holding Co., an unlisted stock with a normal value of about $9,000,000 and a probable current value of $5,000,000. J. Arthur Rank interests own the other 50 per cent and hold operating control.

Kelly denied reports that UA's half interest actually had been offered to Rank during his, Kelly's, recent visit to London, adding that "There is no purpose in offering them. The shares are there for any interested purchaser with the required cash."

Kelly and other UA executives were not available for comment in advance of publication of the report concerning UA's willingness to dispose of its Odeon interest.

Para. 'Unconquered' Party Here Tuesday

Paramount will hold a "Superlative Party," in the Rainbow Room of the RCA Building, here, on Tuesday, in connection with Cecil B. DeMille's "Unconquered." Some 350 newspaper and magazine writers and advertising executives have been invited to compete for a prize for the best superlative for describing the picture.

CINCINNATI, Sept. 25. — Cecil B. DeMille will be guest at a luncheon to be given at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, here, on Oct. 7, by city officials. DeMille's "Unconquered" will open that day at Cincinnati's Capitol.

O'Dwyer-DeMille Date

Cecil B. DeMille, now enroute here from Hollywood, will be received by Mayor O'Dwyer on Wednesday, the Mayor having requested DeMille to express his views on production in New York.

Autry Meets the Press

Gene Autry was host at a press reception held here yesterday at the Hotel Warwick on the opening of the Rodeo at Madison Square Garden. Film and sports writers attended along with Columbia Pictures home office executives and Garden officials.

St. John in Charge Of Two Cities Films

LONDON, Sept. 24.—Though momentarily unannounced officially, Earl St. John, who has just returned from America, will shortly become joint managing director of J. Arthur Rank's Two Cities Films. Ostensibly he will rank equally with Josef Somlo, but actually he will have active charge.

The move is a further indication of Rank's anxiety over the overwhelming costs and time spent on certain Denham productions and his determination, along with John Davis, managing director of the Rank Organization, to curb costs. One plan originally proposed was to divide the Denham-Pinewood organizations into two, one devoted to "economically practicable" productions, the balance to so-called prestige efforts, with hoped-for American markets.

Impressed with the money-making achievements of Sydney Box, managing director of Gainsborough Pictures, Rank invited him to take over Denham's "economic-film" half, but Box declined, pointing out that he stepped up Gainsborough production to 12 pictures in 1946 and plans 14 in 1947, all warranted to cover production costs in Britain. Several have already made good profits here.

New Foreign-Film Company Is Formed

Formation of a new foreign films distributing organization, Westport-International Films, Inc., has been completed here by L. Kipnis, president. Vice-president is Alexander Kipnis, the Metropolitan Opera star, a cousin of the president. Emil Lustig is executive vice-president.

By signing to handle U. S. distribution for Westport's first production, the Italian "Furia" (Fury), Film Classics, has undertaken its first assignment involving a foreign-language film. "Furia" was titled and edited by Herman Weinberg. United Artists will distribute in South America.

Lustig has left here for Paris and Rome to acquire a half-dozen French and Italian films to be sent back to this country for distribution.

$320,000 Toronto Bond Issue Theatres

TORONTO, Sept. 25.—A $320,000 refunding issue of 2¾ per cent bonds of Theatre Properties (Hamilton), Ltd., Toronto, has been privately sold, to provide part of the funds for the redemption of the company's five per cent mortgage bonds due in 1959. The bonds have been called for redemption on Jan. 2.

The company owns the Palace and Capitol in Hamilton, Ont., which are under lease to Odeon Theatres of Canada and is reported to be controlled by Paul L. Nathanson, former Odeon president. The president of Theatre Properties is George H. Beeston of Toronto.

Para. Theatre in Peru

First new theatre to be constructed and operated by Paramount International Theatres, will be the Paramount Tacna in Lima, Peru, scheduled to open late in December. The Tacna is part of a new 10-story building.

US Policy Opposed By Italian Owners

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Sept. 21 (By Airmail).—Limitation of American imports and a boycott of American films are scheduled to be discussed at the next general meeting of the Italian Association of Exhibitors to be held here in October.

High-placed exhibitors allege [illegible]at agents of American companies over here are unreasonably exploiting their already monopolistic position without realizing that their position could be changed.

Authoritative sources within the Association of Exhibitors have indicated that J. Arthur Rank is making ready to establish a large theatre circuit here. His work would be made easier by the present mood of exhibitors protesting American practices.

Questioning executives of the Exhibitors Association, it was determined that the exhibitors are angered at Italian managers of local American offices who are so concerned with sales records that they are pushing percentages and minimum guarantees "far beyond all bounds." At present American companies are asking 50 per cent and a very high minimum guarantee which, it is claimed, sometimes precludes any profits for exhibitors.

Some Italian exhibitors are in favor of an agreement with Italian producers to ask the government for a law to bar the importation of foreign pictures; others are for a joint exhibitor pledge to boycott American pictures.

While this mood is growing, it is learned on good authority that the Leoni firm, which practically controls the Ente Nazionale Industrie Cinematografiche, Italy's largest circuit, is working on behalf of Rank interests and with Rank money to make contracts with Italian exhibitors. Leoni's tactics are to rent theatres, offering their owners a part of the ne proceeds—about 15 per cent. The firm does not select houses according to their location or importance, bu makes contracts with any exhibitor The two largest theatres in Rome which will open soon, have already agreed to such contracts with Leoni

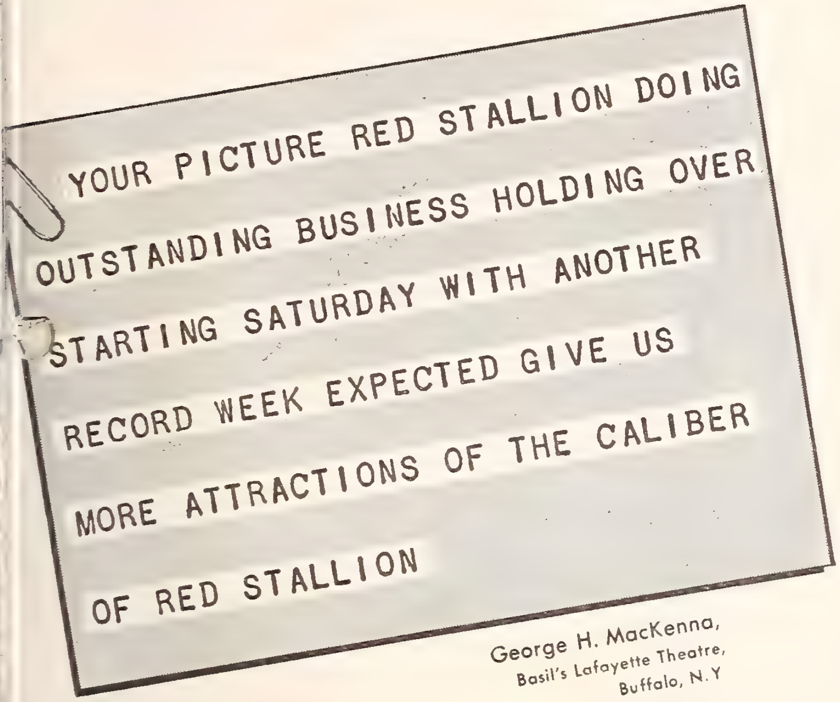
Siritzky Predicts 2,000 Accounts by '48

A national sales drive is being launched by Siritzky International William Shelton, general sales manager, said he expects 2,000 U. S theatre accounts for the company's French product by the end of 1948 The company plans stepped-up promotions, including the employment of a staff of field exploiteers, increased advertising, tours by French stars and the opening of offices in Chicago and San Francisco.

Ontario Requires Label for 'Adults'

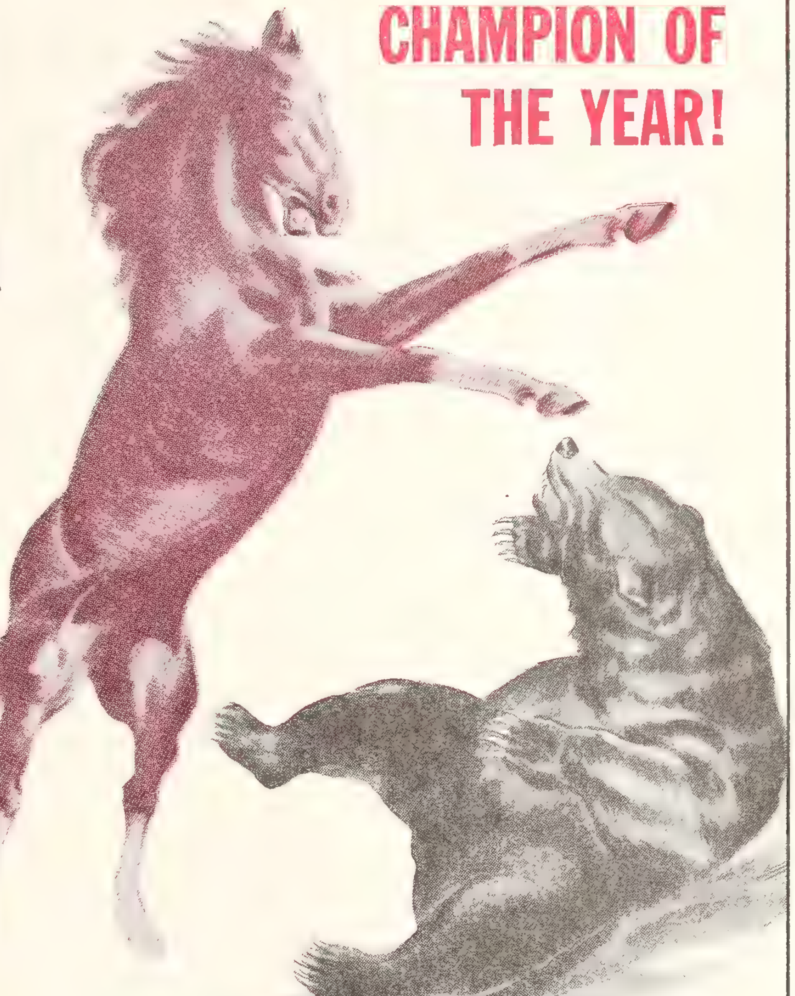
TORONTO, Sept. 25. — The Ontario Board of Censors has graded seven features as adult entertainment and they must be advertised as such for the guidance of parents, under new regulations. They include "Wild Harvest," "Desert Fury," "Duel in the Sun," "Repeat Performance," "Brute Force," "Pretender" and "What Price Vengeance."

THE GREATEST ACTION THRILLER OF THE YEAR IS THE BOX-OFFICE CHAMPION OF THE YEAR!



YOUR PICTURE RED STALLION DOING OUTSTANDING BUSINESS HOLDING OVER STARTING SATURDAY WITH ANOTHER RECORD WEEK EXPECTED GIVE US MORE ATTRACTIONS OF THE CALIBER OF RED STALLION

George H. MacKenna,
Basil's Lafayette Theatre,
Buffalo, N.Y



TAKE THE WORD OF THE HUNDREDS OF SHOWMEN WHO PLAYED IT

LIKE... Warner • Interstate • Fox West Coast Paramount • Loew • Fabian • Robb & Rowley Jefferson • Harry Arthur • Jay Emanuel • Lucas & Jenkins • Basil • Standard • Alliance • RKO Westland • Yamins, and more, and more...

TAKE THE WORD OF THE HUNDREDS OF BOX-OFFICE RECORDS

SET IN CITIES LIKE... Los Angeles • San Francisco Dallas • Seattle • Fall River • Cincinnati • Portland, Me. and Portland Ore. • Houston • San Antonio Galveston • Spokane • New Orleans • Rochester Atlantic City • Baltimore • Ft. Worth • Milwaukee Terre Haute • Altoona • Elmira • Memphis Oklahoma City • San Diego • Long Beach • Phoenix Lincoln • Colorado Springs • Buffalo, and more, and more...

EAGLE LION
FILMS
presents

"RED STALLION"

IN THRILLING CINECOLOR

"RED STALLION" IS THE BOX-OFFICE CHAMPION!

ASK THE MAN WHO PLAYED IT!

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Mild weather and good marquee names kept business at a steady keel this week. The Fox Theatre came through with smash business with "Dark Passage," which did a lush $34,000 in its opening week. Estimated reecipts for the week ended Sept. 24:

BLACK NARCISSUS (U-I) and HEART-ACHES (E-L)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c). Gross: $14,500. (Average: $7,500)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (95c). With vaudeville. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $23,000)

CRY WOLF (WB) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 1st week on a moveover. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $19,500)

DARK PASSAGE (WB) and THE BIG FIX (E-L)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $23,000)

DEEP VALLEY (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $18,000)

DILLINGER (Mono.)—STATE (2,135) (60c-85c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,000)

HEAVEN ONLY KNOWS (UA) and PHILO VANCE RETURNS (E-L)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—UNITED NATIONS (1,129) (60c-85c). On a moveover. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 10th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $18,000)

CLEVELAND

Every downtown house hit average or over with the first week of cool weather. "Life with Father" drew a good $22,000 in its second week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 25:

CORSICAN BROTHERS (E-L reissue) and SOUTH OF PAGO PAGO (E-L)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,600)

KING'S JESTER (Superfilm)—LOWER MALL (563) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,500)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,750)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (90c-$1.25) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $18,250)

THE LONG NIGHT (RKO Radio)—RKO ALLEN (3.000) (55c-70c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $14,000)

RED STALLION (E-L)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

RIFF RAFF (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-90c). On stage: Olsen & Johnson. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $35,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 2nd week on a holdover. Gross: $19.500. (Average: $19,000)

DENVER

"Gone with the Wind" packed the Orpheum repeatedly, and with only four shows daily thousands were turned away, so it is being held. A stage show pepped up "High Tide" at the Tabor to a high gross, while the bills at the Denver, Webber, Paramount and Esquire, were good enough to warrant moving to other houses. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 24:

BARBER OF SEVILLE (Excelsior)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,500)

HIGH TIDE (Mono.)—TABOR (1,967) (35c-74c). Stage show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $8,000)

LAST OF THE MOHICANS (E-L) and KIT CARSON (E-L)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 2nd week, day-and-date with the Paramount. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and BLACKMAIL (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 2nd week, day-and-date with the Esquire. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Webber. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)

SINGAPORE (U-I) and WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) day-and-date with the Denver. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000)

KANSAS CITY

Return of heat, between 90 and 100 degrees, and then a heavy rainstorm Saturday night, hurt show attendance, but patronage surged back Sunday despite beautiful weather to lure motorists. "Possessed," at the Paramount, is leading first-runs, and will be held over. Midland is having above-average results on a second week of "Gone with the Wind," which had an outstanding first week. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 23-25:

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M-reissue)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

POSSESSED (WB)—PARAMOUNT (1,900) (45c-65c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,000)

RED STALLION (E-L)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) moveover from the Fairway, Tower and Esquire for 2nd week. Gross: $3,750. (Average: $5,000)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,750)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c). Gross: $7,700. (Average: $9,000)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,000)

OMAHA

Three of five first-runs here carried holdovers and managed to bolster their averages at the same time. Weather was much cooler and remained fair. Estimated receipts for for the week ended Sept. 25:

DESERT FURY (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c). Gross: $10,900. (Average: $10,600)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.) and DESPERATE (RKO Radio)—RKO-BRANDEIS (1,100) (50c-65c). Gross: $8,100. (Average: $6,600)

HUCKSTERS (M-G-M)—STATE (750) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SECOND CHANCE (20th-Fox)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week for "Mother Wore Tights" on a moveover from the Paramount.

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 2nd week. Gross: $16.100. (Average: $9,300)

PITTSBURGH

"Welcome Stranger" drew splendidly in its opening week at the Stanley, to lead this week's offerings.

"Life with Father," moving into its fifth and final week at the Warner, grossed satisfactorily. Also on the holdover list are "Gone with the Wind," "Desert Fury" and "Mother Wore Tights." Estimated receipts the week ended Sept. 24-25:

ARIZONA (Col.) and TEXAS (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $4,000. . (Average: $3,200)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 3rd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)

KISS OF DEATH (20th-Fox)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,700)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (90c-$1.25) 5th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). Gross: $32,000. (Average: $25,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Heavy rain all Sunday afternoon put a crimp in this week's first-run prospects. "Mother Wore Tights," however, is set for a very good figure, on a par with "Life with Father" at higher prices. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 23-24:

THE BACHELOR AND THE BOBBY-SOXER (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c). On a moveover from the Indiana (third week downtown). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500)

DOWN TO EARTH (Col.) and BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c). Gross: $10,00.0 (Average: $11,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—CIRCLE (2,800) (90c-$1.25). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000, at 40c-60c)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $12,000)

REPEAT PERFORMANCE (E-L) and VIOLENCE (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

ST. LOUIS

"Life with Father" was presented at the Ambassador and Shubert at advanced prices in the first double showing of a first-run picture in many months, but it met competition from holdovers. Estimated receipts for the week ended Sept. 24:

DESERT FURY (Para.) and NEWS HOUNDS (Mono.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

FRAMED (Col.) and CYNTHIA (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (2,000) (50c-60c-75c). On a moveover from two weeks at Loew's State. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,750)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—AMBASSADOR (3,514) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $24,000. (Average at regular prices of 50c-60c-75c: $16,750)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—SHUBERT (2,000) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $12,000. (Average at regular prices of 40c-50c-60c: $5,250)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox) and SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). On a moveover from Fox and Ambassador. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $11,500)

RED STALLION (E-L) and BRINGING UP FATHER (Mono.)—FOX (5,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,250)

Drop Loew House Organ

Publication of "Lo!" (Loew Theatres house organ) will be discontinued shortly, it is understood. The magazine, a monthly, published for three years, is edited by Vin LaBarbera.

Para. Television

(*Continued from page 1*)

that the experiment is to be motivated only by the company's interest in bringing desirable entertainment to the customer, Paramount having no intentions of promoting theatre video as such. The company itself will not deal in television equipment, he added. Paramount is affiliated with DuMont, television manufacturer.

The first television showing at [illegible] Broadway house will be completely devoid of ballyhoo, Raibourn said, adding it is likely the first show will go on unheralded, even so far as the press is concerned. He would prefer, he said, to have the public determine the merits of theatre television, uninfluenced by any newspaper comments.

Raibourn declined to divulge the type of subject matter intended for the tests or any details concerning them, except to say it is planned to start them within six months. He reported Paramount will conduct the experiments exclusively, and not in conjunction with DuMont, or any other television company.

The Paramount Theatre program will include the filming of a televised event, developing the film and projecting it on the theatre's screen, through a process developed by DuMont and said to require only about 60 seconds for processing.

Raibourn refused to discuss Paramount's intentions concerning the Federal Communications Commission's directive banning any one company from having holdings in more than five television stations. Paramount itself owns two stations and DuMont has three, hence the latter must withdraw pending applications for approval of additional stations by Oct. 15 unless Paramount relinquishes its interests in DuMont.

NBC Staff Enlarged For Television

To speed up its television activities, National Broadcasting has made the following appointments: John F. Royal, vice president, has been named assistant to the executive vice-president on television; George McElrath is director of engineering operations; Charles P. Hammond, was named assistant to the executive vice-president; and James H. Nelson is director of advertising-promotion.

New Video Relay to Start on Monday

SYRACUSE, Sept. 25.—A new commercial television relay, with sufficient power to bring programs from New York will be inaugurated on Monday by WRGB, General Electric's television station in Schenectady.

France Honors Sarnoff

In recognition of his "distinguished services in France as an officer at Allied Supreme Headquarters," David Sarnoff, president and chairman of the board of RCA, has been awarded the Cross of Commander of the French Legion of Honor.

WNBC Anniversary

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York has directed a letter of congratulation to Niles Trammell, president of National Broadcasting, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the network's New York station WNBC.

Hollywood

By WILLIAM McGRATH

Hollywood, Sept. 25

CONSTANCE BENNETT'S latest starring film, "Smart Woman," to be produced by Allied Artists, will be entirely filmed in the new Motion Picture Center studio in Hollywood. To be produced by Hall E. Chester and directed by Edward A. Blatt, it is being readied for an Oct. 1 start. . . . Monogram announces it will have five pictures filming by the end of September. Three of this number, "The Old Gray Mayor" and "Jiggs and Maggie in Society," and "A Palooka named Joe," are already in work. An untitled Western, starring "Cannonball" Taylor, and a big budget Western, "Panhandle," with Rod Cameron, Cathy Downs and Ann Gwynne, will get started near the end of the month. . . . During October, Allied Artists plans to send four pictures to the cameras, for Monogram release.

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Harry Joe Brown and Randolph Scott now have changed the name of their production company from Producers-Actors Corp., to Scott-Brown Corp. . . . Lillie Messenger, special story scout for Universal-International, will go to New York Oct. 1 to talk with publishers, authors and Broadway stage producers on forthcoming play and story properties as prospective U-I purchases for screen production. The studio's purchases during the past six months have included such properties as "Harvey," "Another Part of the Forest," "All My Sons," and "Aftermath." . . . A recently-published Saturday Evening Post story, "Gentleman for a Day," has been acquired by Republic for screening. . . . Jack Wrather, independent producer for Allied Artists and Monogram, will make a series of 16mm. entertainment films during 1947-48.

•

Columbia producer, Rudy Mate, and director Joseph Lewis are dividing pre-production chores on the studio's Technicolor comedy, "The Return of October," in order to start filming late this week. . . . Maury Nunes, executive producer for Longridge Pictures, has set Carl Hittleman to produce two streamliners for Screen Productions release. They will be "Law of the Mounties" and "Code of the North."

•

For his first role under his recently signed RKO Radio contract, Melvyn Douglas will co-star with Cary Grant and Myrna Loy in "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House." The first picture for producer-writers Norman Panama and Melvin Frank under their RKO Radio production deal, filming is scheduled to commence Oct. 1, with H. C. Potter as director. . . . Ricardo Cortez has been given one of the top roles in RKO's Radio's "Mystery in Mexico," to be produced by Sid Rogell.

Universal-International announces that Donald O'Connor and Deanna Durbin will again be co-starred in "White House Girl," which will start next February, with Karl Tunberg as producer. . . . James Davis, former oil salesman who turned actor and won his spurs at M-G-M, has been signed by Warners to a long term contract. His first role on the Burbank lot will be opposite Bette Davis in "Winter Meeting."

Delay 'Peace' Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

dio jobs. On the basis of a recently-conducted survey, the strike which began Sept. 26, 1946, has entailed a $17,500,000 loss in wages.

Available figures further indicate that 3,500 quit their jobs a year ago, others joining the strike and still others returning to work during the interim. Carpenters comprise 1,300 and painters 700 of the bulk of the 3,000 workers who are still out on strike. Laboratory technicians, machinists and set designers account for the remainder.

John L. Lewis Seen Entering Studio Dispute in 'Trade'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—In a further development of the American Federation of Labor's internal battle over the signing of Communist disclaimer affidavits as required under a ruling by Robert Denham of the National Labor Relations Board, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, today appeared to be lining up with William Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters union, in the studio jurisdictional dispute.

Observers indicate that Lewis, adamant in his refusal to sign the disclaimer, has succeeded in gaining support from Hutcheson, possibly in return for Lewis' support of the Carpenters in the Hollywood strike.

'306' Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

cuit negotiators had been arguing all day. It was quickly challenged by James J. Brennan, international vice-president of the IATSE, who protested: "I would say that negotiations are subject to recall."

Gelber, however, declared that "we're in the same position we were in four months ago, and we are not going to go on this way." Differences of opinion between the two union officials openly illustrated the friction that has been reported as developing between the local and "IA" international headquarters.

Richard F. Walsh, international president, who participated in the all-day session, had no comment to make on the outcome, but Brennan supposedly expressed Walsh's viewpoint. Circuit representatives did not comment.

A walk-out would close several hundred theatres in the Metropolitan area. The local had scheduled a strike originally for Labor Day, postponed it until Sept. 17, and then delayed it again when Walsh entered the negotiations.

RKO, TOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

reported they were looking into the legal considerations of alignment with the association since the American Theatres Association, which joined with MPTOA to form TOA, is continuing as a separate organization solely for the purpose of continuing its fight against competitive bidding in the industry anti-trust case.

However, since it has been made clear this action is in no way at all an affair of TOA, Kingsberg said there is no longer any legal question to be considered.

E-L Sales Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

duction, and Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity.

Schwalberg will set up with district heads plans for regionals which will follow the weekend meetings.

Also present will be home office sales executives Ben Shechtman, Frank Soule, Jack Bellman, Doug Netter, Manny Goodman, Phil Gettelson, Neil Astrin and Joe Sugar.

Jerry Pickman, assistant director of advertising-publicity; advertising manager Hal Danson; exploitation manager Arthur Jeffrey; publicity manager Leo M. Brody and radio manager Patrece Snyder, will also attend.

Charles Baron has joined Eagle Lion as field exploiteer in Buffalo. He had been with M-G-M for 11 years.

MPA's 'Nation'

(*Continued from page* 1)

affiliated circuits have agreed to use the film and that many other exhibitors have bought it already.

Future MPA sponsored films will depend on audience reaction to the first film, MPA spokesmen said. Preparations on a second film have been tentatively started but no actual work will be put in on it until a fair-sized audience has seen the initial production. Possible subject for the second film is "Freedom of the Press."

Skouras Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

lem, and is understood to have turned down repeated requests to be a member of the citizens' committee. Gamble, who was called in because of his experience with voluntary drives as head of the Treasury's War Finance Division, met with Secretary of Commerce Harriman, Presidential Assistant John R. Steelman, and other Administration leaders, giving them his advice on the practicability of a voluntary food conservation program. He left here this afternoon for a brief stay in New York, and from there plans to go back to Portland.

Another member of the Citizens Committee named by Truman is Justin Miller, president of the National Association of Broadcasters.

Colvin Reelected

(*Contnued from page* 1)

held Sept. 28 to Oct. 1, 1948, at the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, it was decided.

The TEDPA meeting, at which more than 75 members were present, also elected its executive committee for the coming term. The four current members were reelected, and four new members voted in.

New members are J. Eldon Peak, Oklahoma Theatre Supply Co.; Harry Sarber, Western Theatrical Equipment Co.; John P. Filbert, John P. Filbert Co., and Ray Bussler, United Theatre Supply Co. The four members who were reelected were: F. A. Van Husan, Western Theatre Supply Co.; A. E. Thiele, Des Moines Theatre Supply Co.; William Carroll, Falls City Theatre Equipment Co., and Joe Hornstein, New York.

Earlier today, at the opening luncheon of the joint convention, more than 450 delegates were welcomed to Washington by James Russell Young, president of the District Board of Commissioners.

Ascap Extends Pacts

(*Continued from page* 1)

association with others two weeks ago.

The decision to extend the pact to Feb. 1, therefore, was a compromise on the part of the Ascap board. In effect, it amounts to an additional 60 days beyond the initial stay which Ascap had granted voluntarily.

It was felt by a majority of the board that during the four months from Oct. 1 when the increased rates originally were scheduled to become effective, ample time would be provided for exhibitor negotiations.

The Ascap theatre committee, authorized to meet and deal with exhibitors, consists of Herman Greenberg, Gene Buck, Donald Gray, Louis Frohlich, Herman Finkelstein, Jerry Hoffman and Richard Murray.

Ascap today will begin mailing notices of the new extension of existing licenses to all theatres, the bulk of whose Ascap contracts were scheduled to expire between Oct. 1 and Jan. 1.

No Ascap 'Favors'

(*Contnued from page* 1)

point yesterday before an ITO membership meeting in the Hotel Astor, here.

At yesterday's meeting four new ITO board members were named: Irving Gottlieb, Harry Krindel, Sam Koenig and Max Goldbaum. Announcement was made that the Trent Theatre, New Rochelle, recently acquired by Cohen's Cinema Circuit from Inter-Boro, has been added to the ITO membership.

Managers' Course

(*Continued from page* 1)

viously, motivates the program, which is designed to fully acquaint the theatremen with phases of operation not only fundamental, but technicalities in the functioning and maintenance of all equipment.

The managers, divided into four groups, will assemble in class one day weekly with the course to run through to next summer.

Loew's aim is to equip its theatremen with a greater knowledge of sound and projection, lighting, construction and alterations, air conditioning and heating, as well as late techniques in promotion and administration.

Among executives who will address classes, in addition to Vogel and Doob, are: Harry Moskowitz, construction and maintenance; Lester Isaac, sound and projection; Ernest Emerling and Dan Terrell, advertising and publicity; Edward C. Dowden, exploitation, and others.

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Short Subjects

"The American Heritage"

(RKO Radio—NSS)

America's democratic ideals, as symbolized in the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, are movingly reflected in "The American Heritage" an 11-minute subject produced by Dore Schary of RKO Radio for the American Heritage Foundation, and distributed by National Screen Service. The subject will be shown in connection with the Foundation's Freedom Train.

The subject, narrated by Joseph Cotten and written by Ted Geisel, traces the fight for liberty in this country. As the camera runs through the years of America's growth, utilizing newsreel shots and clippings from historical pictures, the narrator pays tribute to the system that helped to make this country great. Running time, 11 minutes.

"Assignment: Tel Aviv"

(United Palestine Appeal)

The story of everyday life in Palestine is told in the form of a report of a correspondent assigned to get "behind the headlines" of the terrorism and violence. Quentin Reynolds is the correspondent, and it is his voice which is heard on the soundtrack.

With the camera focusing attention on a representative family in Tel Aviv, the picture of life in Palestine emerges through a series of simple, everyday episodes. Produced in color, the documentary is interesting and informative. The narration, by Harold E. Steinberg, is especially effective for its restrained eloquence. Paul V. Falkenberg produced. Exhibitors may obtain the film through contact with the United Palestine Appeal. Running time, 21 minutes.

"House in the Desert"

(United Palestine Appeal)

First production of Palestine Films, Inc., recently formed in Jerusalem, is an informative documentary which tells the story of the settlement and upbuilding of a pioneer colony. It has all the wonder of a seed coming to full flower, as the arid wasteland mixes with sweat and sinew, to produce a modern city in the desert.

Although the topic is one very much in the news these days, stridency is avoided, as the subject unfolds with restraint. Produced by Norman Lourie and directed by Ben Oyserman, the film is available free to exhibitors. Running time, 30 minutes.

New Committee to Advise on Radio

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25. — Assistant Secretary of State William Benton discloses that a new advisory committee on international broadcasting is to be appointed by the Department of State, pending action by Congress on the Department's proposal for the creation of an "International Broadcasting Foundation of the United States." The new committee will carry on and extend the functions of a previous committee of consultants which discharged its responsibilities with a report released by the Department last May 16.

Reviews

"Desire Me"

(M-G-M)

GREER GARSON is back for the first time since March of '46, when she co-starred with Clark Gable in "Adventure." That makes it quite a span between attractions and also a cause for regret that her reappearance could not have been marked by more auspicious circumstances.

"Desire Me" is a drama set on the sea-lashed coast of Northern France and deals with tossed emotions arising out of the war. Miss Garson, happily married to Robert Mitchum, has not seen him for five years. A French soldier, and thereafter a prisoner of war, he has been occupied with sterner matters. In a German prison pen, however, he finds some measure of comfort by reliving his life as husband and fisherman and by recounting it in more intimate detail than propriety recognizes, to Richard Hart, fellow prisoner and something of a villain.

Mitchum is shot in a break for freedom and left to die by his friend. Hart, armed to the hilt with word pictures of Miss Garson, returns to the village and works his way through her loneliness toward her heart. Her initial acceptance of him is predicated on the fact that he was Mitchum's friend and present when the former presumably died.

The gradually enveloping romance is well on its way toward consummation when Mitchum, whose mail had been intercepted by Hart, returns. This exposes the conflict between the two men and resolves it on the fog-shrouded cliffs overhanging the turbulent ocean when Mitchum kills the interloper. Miss Garson, innocently caught up in the whole series of events, leaves Mitchum but later returns on the advice of a friendly doctor who concludes she alone can set at rest her inner conflict.

This story is variably handled. It gets heavy-handed, static and bogged down by philosophical spoutings which are largely superficial. Under the handicaps of treatment or direction, whichever may be responsible primarily, the principal performances lack sparkle. Miss Garson, clearly, deserves better material than has been accorded her here. Mitchum has little to do. It is Hart, newcomer from the Broadway stage, who has the principal male role. He shows promise.

"Desire Me" has the commercial drawing power of Miss Garson, and this is not to be overlooked. Her faithful probably will be disappointed in this attraction. But it seems reasonable to assume that the opportunity to see her for the first time in 18 months will not be passed by. Production values are out of Metro's Class A cabinet. Supporting members of the cast include Morris Ankrum and George Zucco. Marguerite Roberts and Zoe Akins wrote the screenplay, from Casey Robinson's adaptation of an unnamed novel by Leonhard Frank. Arthur Hornblow, Jr., produced.

Running time 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, October.

RED KANN

"My Father's House"

(Kline-Levin)

HERBERT KLINE and Meyer Levin present some of the drama of Jewish refugees hunting desperately for security and happiness in Palestine in "My Father's House," and, despite budget and cast limitations, they have captured the flavor of the present-day life of the Jews in that country. As they explain in a foreword, the picture is not devoted to Palestine politics, but to its people.

The story presents a small boy's fruitless search for his parents in Palestine. His quest is doomed from the start, since both were killed in a Nazi concentration camp, but the strength and hope of the Palestinian pioneers are depicted as healthy bulwarks for the boy's eventual happiness and security.

The boy, played by Ronnie Cohen, flees from his Palestinian friends and travels from settlement to settlement in his search, collapsing physically and psychologically, when he finally learns the truth. Excellent performances are given by the boy and by Irene Broza, Isaac Danziger, Herman Heuser and Joseph Pacovsky. The camera not only catches some of the beauty of the country but moving impressions of its people as well.

Herbert Kline directed, from a novel by Levin. Floyd Crosby was the photographer, and Henry Brant composed and conducted the music.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Sept. 25.

DAVID A. GORDON.

"Bury Me Dead"

(Eagle Lion)

A DIFFICULT time is had by all in "Bury Me Dead." The plot hobbles along and practically collapses before the finale. The cast, immersed in insipid dialogue, and attempting to switch desperately from alleged moments of suspense to sophisticated banter, tries hard, but does not succeed.

Players who had to cope with this mystery are Cathy O'Donnell, June Lockhart, Hugh Beaumont and Mark Daniels. Greg McClure, who appeared in "The Great John L.," plays the part of a dumb pugilist and Miss Lockhart plays the role of a wealthy young woman, on the verge of a divorce from Daniels. After supposedly being burned beyond recognition in a stable fire, she returns to her home in the valid belief that someone is attempting to kill her. Her foster sister, Miss O'Donnell, is a neurotic girl, who fancies herself in love with Daniels. Beaumont is the family attorney. Suspicion is fastened on Daniels, but ultimately Beaumont is exposed as the killer of the pugilist's secretary whose body was found in the stable. Bernard Vorhaus directed, from a screenplay by Karen de Wolf and Dwight V. Babcock, based on a radio story by Irene Winston.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

D. A. G.

Mexican Exhibitors Reject Price Cut

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 25.—Top first run exhibitors here have told the municipal government that it is impossible for them to obey its request to reduce admission charges to an average of 85 cents for the first week of a picture, and also that rate on Sundays and holidays, 65 cents for the re[illegible] a film's run. The exhibitors ex[illegible] that while they regret that such prices keep new pictures from most classes, any cut in rates would mean that the theatres would be operating at a loss, so high are their costs, prominent of which are labor and taxes.

Until there is a reduction of operating costs there can be no cut in admittance prices, the exhibitors said. They also cited film rentals. Another high cost stressed was for advertising, mostly in newspapers. They declared that it is folly for them to offer a picture without intensive advertising, for, they aver, word of mouth publicity does not count for so very much here.

Plan Legal Action on 'Burning Cross'

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Screen Guild, producers of "The Burning Cross," will take legal action to enjoin a decision by the Virginia Board of Censors banning the picture, if the board does not reverse itself, according to Jack Cartwright, the Guild's public relations director, who is here from Hollywood.

Cartwright said he had been informed that Virginia had banned the film on the grounds that it is "inhuman and of such character that its exhibition may incite to crime," but he contends that the real reason is that the picture "tells the story of the Ku Klux Klan."

He said he plans to take the case up with Virginia's censors in the hope of convincing them that "The Burning Cross" is not as brutal as many films which they have passed.

Arnold Is Chairman Of Charities Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 25.—Appointment of Edward Arnold as campaign chairman of the third annual united appeal of the Permanent Charities Committee, has been announced by M. C. Levee, chairman. The campaign, which starts on Oct. 20, is seeking $1,312,190 from 25,000 workers in production and allied film industries.

Funds will be distributed among Los Angeles, Burbank, Santa Monica, and Glendale Community Chests, the American Cancer Society, Los Angeles Tuberculosis and Health Association, Los Angeles Heart Association and the Sister Kenny Foundation.

Para. Stockholder Suit

Minority stockholder Hyman Horwitz filed suit against Paramount and Henry Ginsberg, vice-president, in U. S. District Court, here, yesterday, charging that Ginsberg purchased and sold 1,300 shares of Paramount common between June, 1946, and January, 1947, and Horwitz claims, alleged profits of $6,000 resulting from the transaction belong to the company under the Securities and Exchange Act.

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E-L Slates 27 Releases For 1947-48

17 Made in U. S. at Cost of $23,000,000

Eagle-Lion's 1947-48 release schedule calls for 17 features having a combined production cost of $23,000,000, A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, told the company's two-day sales meeting, which ended yesterday at the Warwick Hotel here. Four J. Arthur Rank pictures and six Edward Small reissues will be added to the season's schedule.

A. W. Schwalberg

Addressing division and district managers and home office sales executives, Schwalberg said E-L will follow a policy of "unlimited coop-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Nelson Awaits Action On Loan to SIMPP

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, confirmed here at the weekend that he has approached the Reconstruction Finance Corp. in Washington in an effort to obtain Government financing for members of the group on an individual basis. Nelson said he had no indication of the RFC reaction to his request.

Nelson, who had been in Washington earlier in the week, said he was not in a position to divulge the nature of the proposition he put to the RFC

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA-RKO Film Deal In Final Stages

Hollywood, Sept. 28.—Although actual purchase by United Artists of one to seven RKO Radio films will not be finalized until UA president Gradwell L. Sears returns to New York, where the transaction will be consummated, the number and titles of the pictures involved will be di-

(*Continued on page 7*)

British Tax Cited As Cause for 20th's $25,000,000 Credit

Twentieth Century-Fox's credit agreement with a group of banks here, under which it may borrow up to $25,000,000, was motivated primarily by "the uncertainties facing the (U. S.) industry in foreign distribution," and particularly because of the British tax situation, according to the company's latest proxy statement.

Copies of the statement have been sent to prior preferred stockholders, a majority of whose consent is necessary before an amount in excess of $5,000,000 can be borrowed. The stockholders are required to express their consent or dissent prior to Oct. 24.

The only question asked by the Securities and Exchange Commission prior to the final drafting of the proxy, it is understood, inquired to what extent the consents would be revocable. The SEC's question was answered to its satisfaction, it was said, by the inclusion in the statement of a provision that consents could be revoked until a majority consent is

(*Continued on page 6*)

Reelect Neu, Others To TESMA Posts

Washington, Sept. 28.—The Theatre Equipment Supply and Maintenance Association at the weekend reelected Oscar F. Neu for another two-year term as president. Neu is president of Neu-Made Products, New York.

W. A. Gedris, of Ideal Seating Co.,

(*Continued on page 7*)

More Advertising Is Needed: Grauman

Hollywood, Sept. 28. — Announcing the celebration of the historic Egyptian Theatre's silver anniversary for Oct. 3 by installing a "Wall of Fame" in the forecourt, presenting bronze likenesses of 150 stars, Sid Grauman declared that, "More advertising and showmanship are the industry's best solution to make up for receipts being diminished through the loss of foreign markets."

UK Labor Order No Bar to Industry

London, Sept. 28.—Britain's plan to direct unemployed workers into essential industries, effective Oct. 6, is not expected to hamper the film industry.

For example, the plan contemplates that unemployed persons seek jobs through government labor exchanges or recognized employment agencies. The National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes is a recognized agency, and therefore it is a reasonable assumption that the industry will have no difficulty securing skilled employes, such as projectionists, etc.

George Isaacs, Minister of Labor, hints that the government is considering the cases of persons employed in the so-called luxury trades and thus contributing nothing to the economic emergency. Although cinemas are classed as a luxury, it is considered a necessity to maintain public entertainment, and exhibitors, although they may possibly be asked to cut their staffs to a minimum, will not be forbidden to employ usherettes.

Bldg. Code Will Conform To Exhibitors' Proposals

A considerable number of new revisions, in line with recommendations made by theatremen at this year's various public hearings, will be effected in the proposed new New York State building code, in the opinion of State Industrial Code chief John Coggeshall.

The new code and the recommended revisions, Coggeshall said here at the weekend, are now being studied by a special three-man board of State Labor Department executives. The board's chairman is William H. Roberts; other members are Raymond Fisher and H. Myron Lewis. The completed code is expected to be ready this fall.

Coggeshall said he feels certain that the board will accept his interpretation of what constitutes a motion picture theatre stage. He has held that if a stage has just one permanent set or drop and has no changeable scenery it is not a "stage" under the code. If Coggeshall's interpretation does not prevail, owners of small theatres have maintained at hearings, conformance with the new code's stage requirements as now written, would cost the small theatres "thousands of dollars" for re-construction.

Spur Naming Of TOA's New Directors

ASCAP, Other Activities Are Stymied, Meanwhile

Regional exhibitor organizations affiliated with the new Theatre Owners of America are urged in letters sent from New York headquarters over the weekend to convene meetings at the earliest possible date for the purpose of electing directors to the TOA board. Each member organization is entitled to elect one director.

Haste in the election of directors and the organization of the board is emphasized in order to make possible the carrying out of the TOA convention mandates, particularly to derive authority from the board to act for members in such matters as impending negotiations with the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for a lowering of the pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ascap Willing to Discuss New Pacts

Disclosures from official sources made it clear at the weekend that the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers is willing to negotiate with theatremen during the four months' postponement, to Feb. 1, of its new rates, although management is not authorized to enter into new contracts on different terms without board approval. Meanwhile, official action by the Theatre Owners

(*Continued on page 7*)

Loew's Sues Owner In Reports Dispute

Charging that the Heights Theatre, here, submitted allegedly inaccurate statements of gross admission receipts on M-G-M pictures over a six-year period, Loew's, Inc., filed a damage suit in U. S. District Court, here, at the weekend, against Irving R. Landaw and the Danlow Theatre Corp., owners of the Heights.

Reviewed Today

"Dick Tracy Meets Gruesome" is reviewed on page 6.

Personal Mention

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, arrived here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

Morris Loewenstein, president of MPTO of Oklahoma, left New York at the weekend for Oklahoma City, with a stop-over in St. Louis for conferences with Fred Wehrenberg, Theatre Owners of America board chairman.

•

Scott R. Dunlap, executive assistant to Steve Broidy president of Allied Artists and Monogram, left Hollywood at the weekend to meet Broidy on his return to New York from Europe.

•

Walter Brooks of the Managers Round Table department of *Motion Picture Herald*, left here yesterday to attend the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners convention in Kansas City, starting tomorrow.

•

Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox director of exhibitor relations, left New York over the weekend to attend the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Owners convention in Kansas City.

•

Arthur Jeffrey, Eagle Lion exploitation manager, accompanied by field representative Bernard Maxwell, have left New York for New Orleans.

•

Stirling Silliphant, assistant to 20th Century-Fox's advertising-publicity chief, Charles Schlaifer, and Mrs. Silliphant are parents of a daughter.

•

Roy O. Disney, president of Walt Disney Prod., and John F. Reeder, vice-president and general manager, are in town from Hollywood.

•

Sidney Meyer, co-owner of Wometco Theatres, Miami, is stopping at the Savoy-Plaza during a visit in New York.

•

A. J. O'Keefe, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will return to New York tonight from Boston and Washington.

•

Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount studio vice-president, and Mrs. Freeman are due here today from the Coast.

•

Andrew W. Smith, Jr., 20th Century-Fox sales chief, returned to New York from New Haven at the weekend.

•

Sonny Shepherd of Wometco Theatres, Mrs. Shepherd and their son left here at the weekend for Miami.

•

Wendell Corey, new Paramount feature player, arrived here from the Coast at the weekend.

•

Robert Riskin and his wife, Fay Wray, are due here today from Hollywood.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IT is not easy to appraise the new Theatre Owners of America. It is certainly a strapping youngster, born with a golden spoon in its mouth.

An outfit that comes into being with an estimated membership of 10,000 theatres having 5,000,000 seats, and an initial financing objective of $400,000, set largely by the enthusiasm of those who could underwrite it in full if the need is present and their enthusiasm doesn't wane, obviously is a Goliath among exhibitor organizations.

By sheer weight of numbers, position and resources, TOA may be expected to accomplish a great deal which has been beyond the reach of its predecessors and its contemporaries.

It is so big and its financial support promises to be so substantial, in relation to exhibitor organization financing as it has been known heretofore, that no signs of dismay were in evidence at that TOA convention in Washington even when it became apparent that the Loew's, RKO and Warner circuits would not climb aboard the bandwagon for the start of the ride. And whether they ever will get aboard still is anyone's guess.

If they do, it will only be like adding a new top deck to the *Queen Elizabeth's* superstructure. You'll have to examine the massive framework closely to notice the added detail.

•

Actually, of course, the new organization is not a merger of American Theatres Association with Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America.

What really happened was that both of those organizations voted themselves out of existence (except for the limited and technical purpose of pursuing their respective intervention and *amicus curiae* action in the industry anti-trust suit to their conclusion in the Supreme Court within the next few months).

Thereafter, a new organization was formed—new name, new membership, new officers, new board of directors (to be elected by member units within the next 60 days), new constitution and by-laws, new concepts and new financing.

Neither ATA nor MPTOA, it is apparent, is carrying on.

Theatre Owners of America is starting from scratch. It must be judged by the record it makes in the months to come.

As a step in the direction of unification of exhibitor interests, TOA should be hailed and encouraged.

Trade consensus seems to be, in the main, that TOA got away to a fine start, and has a swell set of jockeys in the officers' saddles.

Organizing crises were met at the convention and settled with a fine display of understanding of the other fellow's viewpoint and in a spirit of give-and-take that augurs well for the future of an organization which contains so many divergent and even diametrically opposed interests.

If TOA can and does continue in that spirit, if it works always for the best interests of the greatest number of exhibitors, and if it works as a part of the industry rather than as some tumorous growth upon it, not only will it survive, but will attract to its ranks, inevitably, the best in exhibition not now associated with it.

If it fails to do those things, it will not deserve to survive.

• •

Some exhibitors are looking askance at the Motion Picture Association short subject, "Power Behind the Nation," in part because introductory footage features Eric Johnston, MPA president.

Johnston is more than head of the producer-distributor trade association. As a former president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, an authority on many national and international subjects, he is, like it or not, a national figure. His association with the industry, particularly in such a splendid film of America as is "Power Behind the Nation," offsets in many quarters some of that sniping by enemies of the industry that knows no ending. For example, the forthcoming hearings by the House Un-American Activities committee on Communism in motion pictures.

"Power Behind the Nation" is an excellent film. It can be recommended without reservation for any audience, any theatre. It is also one industry antidote for the poison constantly circulated about your business.

Good Americans will be proud of this picture.

Good showmen will see it themselves and, having seen it, will be proud to show it.

Newsreel Parade

FLOODS in Japan and the release of Italian territory to France are prominently covered in current newsreels. Also included are the rodeo's arrival in New York, the coming world series, Britain's reply to Soviet charges and numerous other items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 9—M[illegible]ll plan signed. Drastic floods in Japan. Rodeo hits East. Sling-shot artist. Prize horses. Pictorial analysis of U.S. air power.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 207—The Forgotten Islands, a pictorial account of Guam, Saipan, Okinawa, Tarawa and Iwo Jima today.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 10—Rodeo in New York. Floods in Japan. Europe submits formula for survival. Italy releases territory under peace treaty. World series: 8,000,000 citizens shout.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 77—Europe requests aid from the U.S. French-Italian peace treaty goes into effect. Britain replies to Soviet charges before UN. Thousands die as typhoon hits Japan. Four-year old aquaplane artist. Slingshot wizard. New York welcomes rodeo.

WARNER PATHE NEWS, No. 12—Brigue and Tende go to France. Veterans sail for Australia. Floods hits Japan. Marshall-plan conference. Forrestal takes office. Treasure Island demolished. Children's radio station.

Map Extension of 20th-Fox Run Plan

Twentieth Century-Fox's reduced 21-day clearance plan for de luxe subsequent houses will be extended to additional territories, "wherever we find a situation similar" to that in Cleveland, where it was started, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager discloses here.

Smith said that several de luxe subsequent houses in Cleveland had accepted the plan. They had an availability of 35 days, prior to the inauguration of the plan.

The 20th-Fox sales executive expressed confidence that eventually the plan would be widely accepted.

Larger Quarters for SMPE Expansion

Headquarters of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will be moved tomorrow from the Hotel Pennsylvania, here, to the Canadian Pacific Building on Madison Avenue, where larger quarters have been leased to accommodate additions to the office staff, under executive secretary Boyce Nemec.

Engineering and editorial work o the Society, conducted in separate offices away from headquarters during the past several months, will now b reassembled in one location.

Kendall Is Honored

In ceremonies on the steps of th U. S. Sub-Treasury Building, here Messmore Kendall was presented with the American Legion's Americanism Medal, for his efforts in behalf o Americanism and his dedication to th principles of the Bill of Rights.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Yucca-Vine Building, William R. Weaver, Editor Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, J. A. Otten, 2525 Ontario Road, N. W.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager, Pete Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley publications; Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motio Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879 Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

'306' Group Meets With Walsh Today

Arrangements were made at the weekend by the contract negotiating committee of projectionists' Local No. 306, IATSE, to meet here today with Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, in an effort to break the stalemate now existing between the local and representatives of the RKO, Loew, Warner and Paramount theatres.

Herman Gelber, president of the local, reiterated at the weekend that "there's going to be some drastic action," and indicating that strike preparations are going ahead.

Meanwhile, it is understood that members of the negotiating committee were angered when they visited IA' headquarters on Friday and were unable to see Walsh. Walsh is reported to have spoken with Gelber briefly, and to have explained that he was busy with other matters but that he would see the committee today.

Rename Reagan, Kelly, Holden

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Screen Actors' Guild's nominating committee has renominated Ronald Reagan as president, Gene Kelly as first vice-president, and William Holden as second vice-president. A complete slate, plus any nominations received from he membership, will be submitted to members for a mail vote on Oct. 16, with results announced at the annual membership meeting a month later.

Public Relations Series

The film in public relations will be the subject of 15 weekly seminars at the New School for Social Research, here, beginning Oct. 7. The series, entitled "The Institutional Film," will be conducted by Bertrand Channon and Sidney Kaufman, on Tuesday evenings.

Goldberg in Capital

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Harry Goldberg, director of advertising-publicity for Warner Theatres, will hold a two-day meeting of Washington zone theatre managers and advertising men at local headquarters tomorrow and Tuesday.

Northwest Business Better Than in 1946

Minneapolis, Sept. 28.—On the basis of bank debits reported by the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank for 133 cities in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Wisconsin, Montana and northern Michigan, business in the ninth Federal Reserve District is better so far in 1947 than in the same period last year.

For the eight months from January through August, the bank debits reported by the Minneapolis reserve bank totaled $19,255,004,000, compared with $15,941,777,000 for the same period in 1946. This represents an increase of 21 per cent.

Walsh is Willing to Attend Coast Meet

Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, disclosed here that he is willing to attend the scheduled AFL Oct. 7 meeting in San Francisco to discuss the Hollywood jurisdictional strike. Walsh said he asked that the meeting be postponed from Oct. 4.

The meeting had been called by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, following a recent Chicago meeting of union officials involved in the dispute. Producers' representatives have wired their willingness to attend the Oct. 7 session. As a result of the Chicago session, union officials agreed to meet on the Coast on Oct. 20. The suggestion of a prior meeting on Oct. 4 was then advanced by Green, and subsequently postponed to Oct. 7.

Meanwhile, a new development in the jurisdictional fight reportedly has brought John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, into an alliance with William Hutcheson, president of the carpenters, whose union has been deadlocked with the "IA" in the Coast battle. Lewis had refused to sign the non-Communist affidavit prescribed in the Taft-Hartley law, thus blocking the top leadership of the AFL from complying with this provision. Hutcheson was reported to have joined Lewis in his position, and to have won Lewis' support in Hutcheson's fight with the IATSE.

The threat reported to have been made by Lewis and Hutcheson is withdrawal from the AFL if both their position on the affidavits and the jurisdictional strike are not accepted by other members of the AFL executive council.

Walsh yesterday indicated here that he did not take the threat seriously.

Joseph August, Film Cameraman, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Joseph August, 57, one of the film industry's oldest film cameramen in point of service, died of a heart ailment last Thursday after collapsing on a set at Selznick Studio while working on "Portrait of Jennie." He won an Academy Award in 1936 for his work on "The Informer."

A Navy commander during World War II, he filmed the battle of Midway Island from the deck of an aircraft carrier, and also photographed "They Were Expendable," a Navy documentary. He was wounded in one action.

August, whose camera career dates back to 1911, was photographer of William S. Hart Westerns for five years.

House Group Asks Eisler Be Deported

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The House Committee on Un-American Activities today recommended to the Department of Justice that Hanns Eisler, film composer, be prosecuted for perjury and passport fraud. In a closed session, the committee prepared a report which further recommended that the composer be deported.

The committee will open hearings again on Oct. 20 in its investigation of alleged Communist activity in Hollywood.

It's Now Known as The Universal Bldg.

Name of the Tishman Building, on Park Avenue, here, construction of which was completed recently, has been changed to the Universal Building.

Universal-International and its 16mm. subsidiary, United World Films, completed their moving into the new building at the weekend. Companies were located previously in the RCA Building, here.

Film Shipping Here Not Hit by Strike

New York exchanges' film shipments were wholly unaffected last week by the Railway Express truckmen's strike of 4,000 which virtually halted all movement of RE shipments in and out of the Metropolitan area.

The exchanges obtained the cooperation of film carrier companies to cope with the situation. During the week prints were transported between New York and Philadelphia and between New York and Albany, N. Y., by the carriers. Prints brought from New York to the two non-struck cities were then picked up at those points by Railway Express for relaying to other points throughout the country.

The 4,000 members of Local No. 808, Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL), had struck for a cut in their work week from 44 to 40 hours and a pay raise of 15½ cents an hour.

Prints destined last week for New York were shipped by Railway Express from other parts of the country to Philadelphia and Albany where they were picked up by the carriers and brought here. Carrier truckmen, it was said, had no qualms about running the prints since the Express tie-up was regarded as a "bootleg" strike.

Film company advertising material was for the most part shipped by parcel post as a result of the strike.

Ohio Paper Warns on City Theatre Taxes

GENEVA, O., Sept. 28.—Ohio municipalities are cautioned editorially by this city's *Free Press* to "go slow" in the matter of enactment of theatre taxes.

The editorial warns city administrators that the constitutionality of the municipal tax procedure is in doubt, that theatre taxes are discriminatory and that it forces the exhibitors, as no other business is required to do, to make public their books and earnings. It also warns that the theatre tax may spread to other retail businesses.

"The entire situation," the editorial points out, "is fraught with many dangers."

WB, Paramount Sign To Release to VA

Warner Brothers and Paramount are among 13 companies which have signed contracts with the Veterans Administration to release 16mm. and 35mm. films to VA hospitals and homes during the remainder of 1947 and the first half of 1948.

Tells Industry Story To Community Clubs

Charted to bring before businessmen of the country the story of the motion picture industry, both as entertainment and as a business, a tour of approximately 20 states will be continued today by Maurice N. Wolf, assistant to H. M. Richey, M-G-M director of exhibitor relations, when he addresses the Kiwanis Club in Syracuse.

William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, declares, "We believe public support of motion pictures and maintenance of attendance levels are in direct relationship with public appreciation and understanding of how the business has developed and how it is being run."

The tour will take Wolf before Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, women's clubs and Chambers of Commerce in the next six months.

In addition, he will address the convention of Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan in Detroit, Oct. 13-15; the Gibraltar Circuit meeting in Denver, Nov. 5, and the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention in Indianapolis, Nov. 18-19.

Additionally and supplementing Wolf's program, M. L. Simons, also an assistant to Richey, will speak at the convention of the MPTO of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee at the Hotel Chisca, Memphis, on Oct. 14-15, and the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, to be held in Louisville on Oct. 22-23, and will attend the Allied Theatre Owners of Texas convention in Dallas on Nov. 24-25.

Richey will attend the convention of the West Virginia Managers' Association at the Daniel Boone Hotel, Charleston, W. Va., on Nov. 6-8, the Allied Theatre Owners of Pennsylvania conclave in Pittsburgh on Nov. 24-25 and the convention of National Allied in Milwaukee on Nov. 9-Dec. 3.

Nine New Theatre Projects Approved

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The Government has approved nine theatre projects to cost $243,213, and denied 45 projects which would have entailed $2,355,082. A $90,200 theatre for Independent Theatres, Inc., Chattanooga, led the list of approvals.

Urges 10% Admission Tax

HARTFORD, Sept. 28.—Henry I. Beetham, of Hartford, speaking at a public hearing of the City Aldermanic legislative committee, has suggested a 10 per cent tax on theatre admissions and on the receipts of professional men, as alternatives to the present Connecticut state sales tax. His suggestion, with numerous other alternatives for the present state sales tax, will come up before the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen.

New Nationwide Drive-in Circuit

Memphis, Sept. 28.—Flexers Theatres, Inc., is progressing with a contemplated national circuit of drive-in theatres, opening its second in St. Louis on Friday, following a recent installation in Minneapolis.

EVERY SMART

WILL QUICKLY

FUNNIEST COMEDY

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

Lucille **BALL** • *Franchot* **TONE**

HER HUSBAND'S AFFAIRS

with EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
MIKHAIL RASUMNY · GENE LOCKHART
An S. SYLVAN SIMON Production
Original Screenplay by Ben Hecht and Charles Lederer
Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON · Produced by RAPHAEL HAKIM

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SHOWMAN BOOK THE IN YEARS!

"BOUND TO MAKE HIT WITH ALL AUDIENCES!"

—Exhibitor

"WILL BRING HOWLS!"

—Showmen's Tr. Rev.

"HILARIOUS!"

—Film Daily

"SURE OF HEARTY BOX OFFICE RESPONSE!"

—Daily Variety

"A LAUGH A MINUTE!"

—Variety

"EVERYBODY HAS GRAND TIME!"

—M. P. Daily

"LOTS OF LAUGHS!"

—Boxoffice

"SHOULD CLICK MERRILY!"

—Hollywood Reporter

"AUDIENCE HAD WONDERFUL TIME!"

—M. P. Herald

Production in New Spurt as 11 Films Start

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Almost half as many new pictures have been started as were sent to cutting rooms, with the result that there is an appreciable rise in the production index. There are 37 films before cameras, against the previous week's 32, 11 new productions being put into work, with six finishing. The production scene:

Columbia

Started: "The Return of October," with Glenn Ford. "West of Sonora," with Charles Starrett and Smiley Burnette. "The Wreck of the Hesperus," with Willard Parker, Patricia White and Edgar Buchanan. "Blondie's Night Out," with Arthur Lake, Penny Singleton, Larry Sims, Marguerite Kent and Gay Nelson.

Finished: "Mary Lou."

Shooting: "Coroner Creek."

Eagle Lion

Shooting: "Prelude to Night."

M-G-M

Started: "B. F.'s Daughter," with Barbara Stanwyck, Van Heflin, Richard Hart, Charles Coburn, Keenan Wynn and Spring Byington. "Hills of Home," with Edmund Gwenn, Janet Leigh, Tom Drake, Donald Crisp and Lassie.

Shooting: "Homecoming," "Luxury Liner."

Monogram

Started: "Panhandle," with Rod Cameron, Cathy Downs, Reed Hadley, Ann Gwynne.

Finished: "A Palooka Named Joe," "The Old Gray Mayor."

Shooting: "Jiggs and Maggie in Society."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Paleface," "The Long Gray Line," "Caged Fury."

PRC

Finished: "Westward Trail."

Republic

Shooting: "Main Street Kid," "End of the Rainbow."

RKO Radio

Started: "Joan," with Ingrid Bergman, Jose Ferrer, George Couloris, Richard Ney, Robert Barrett and Selena Royle.

Shooting: "I Remember Mama," "Berlin Express," "Race Street," "Rachel," "Station West," "Good Sam," "The Miracle of the Bells."

Screen Guild

Started: "Law of the Mounties," with Russel Hayden and Jennifer Holt.

Shooting: "Code of the North."

Selznick

Shooting: "Portrait of Jennie."

20th-Fox

Started: "The Ballad of Furnace Creek," with Vic Mature, Coleen Gray, Glenn Langan and Reginald Gardner. "The Flaming Age," with Jeanne Crain, Dan Dailey, Oscar Levant and Barbara Lawrence.

Shooting: "The Snake Pit."

Universal-International

Finished: "The Naked City."

Shooting: "A Letter from an Unknown Woman."

Warners

Shooting: "Johnny Belinda," "To the Victor," "April Showers," "Christopher Blake."

Independent

Shooting: "The War Party" (Argosy).

Finished: "The Tender Years" (Alson).

Review

"Dick Tracy Meets Gruesome"

(RKO Radio)

RALPH BYRD, as Dick Tracy in the latest in that series, zig-zags from dilemma to a perilous position. The standard detective yarn runs a predictable course but manages to maintain fair suspense. Other principals in the film, based on the popular cartoon strip, are Boris Karloff and Anne Gwynne.

The screenplay, concocted by Robertson White and Eric Taylor, has Tracy pitting his wits against a mysterious gas, the vapors of which paralyze all within reach. In the hands of a gang, clumsily masterminded by Karloff, the gas is used as a bank-robbing weapon, there are several murders, punctuated with chases and gun duels, with Tracy himself undergoing the vapors as part of the strategy. By the time an end is brought to Karloff, who plays Gruesome, most of the gang has already been disposed of. Herman Schlom produced, John Rawlins directed.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Released in Block No. 2.

MANDEL HERBSTMAN

MPA's 'Power' Film Is Further Endorsed

Theatre owners can expect full support of clubwomen, schools, churches and libraries when they screen "Power Behind the Nation," the Motion Picture Association, which is sponsoring the Warner short subject, reports.

Arthur De Bra, in charge of the association's community relations department, reveals that the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the General Federation of Women's Clubs have endorsed the film.

Others are: Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, National Board of Review, American Civil Liberties Union, National Conference of Christians and Jews, YMCA, National Community Relations Advisory Council, General Federation of Women's Clubs; D.A.R., National Motion Picture Preview Committee, Parents Motion Picture Group of Greater New York, International Federation of Catholic Alumnae Film Committee, Brooklyn Motion Picture Council, Queens Motion Picture Council, Protestant Motion Picture Council, Film Music Committee, Libraries - Film Division, Cleveland Public Libraries, Professional Woman's League, National Society Patriotic Women of America, Staten Island Motion Picture Council, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Scarsdale Motion Picture Council.

New Reissue Firm

Paul Winchell has formed a partnership with Joe Balaber to re-issue 103 old Mack Sennett silent films, with narrations by Winchell. William Van Praag, who edited "The Roosevelt Story," will edit the first re-issue. The enterprise has been named Grand International Pictures.

Philco Front-View Video Projector

CHICAGO, Sept. 28.—A new kind of television receiver, said to provide pictures 15 by 20 inches, was unveiled by Philco at a preview in the Palmer House here. Employing a new technique, the picture is projected from the front, instead of through the screen from the rear, as done by other companies' receivers.

The picture, first received on the face of a four-inch tube facing downward, is then thrown upon a spherical reflecting lens. It then passes through a correcting lens upon a surface mirror. This reflects the picture from the front up through the cabinet to a tilted new-type screen made of steel.

Video for Dallas Hotel

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—A construction permit for a new commercial television station in Dallas has been granted to the Lacy Potter Television Broadcasting Co., the Federal Communications Commission announces.

The company plans to build a 47-story hotel in downtown Dallas, with the station's antenna site on the roof. Television receiving sets will be installed in all of the hotel's rooms.

Another Video Relay

WASHINGTON, Sept.28.—The Federal Communications Commission has notified Western Union that it "looks with favor" on the company's plans for an experimental microwave television-radio relay circuit between New York and Philadelphia. At the same time the Commission again indicated its hopes of keeping inter-city relay facilities in the hands of common carriers.

New Television Company

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 28. — Peliculas Especiales, S.A., Mexico's first commercial television company, has been organized and registered here by Mexican interests headed by Enrique J. Cervantes. The company will also handle motion pictures.

Mann With CBS

Robert J. Mann, former advertising agency executive, has been appointed director of commercial program development of Columbia Broadcasting, by William G. Gittinger, CBS vice-president in charge of sales.

To Start Video Programs

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 28. — Television service for Milwaukee and environs is expected to be launched by WTMJ-TV, *The Milwaukee Journal* station, about Dec. 1.

20th-Fox Credit

(Continued from page 1)

received, but once a majority has been received, consents will be irrevocable, according to the proxy.

"In 1946, approximately $16,690,000 of the company's gross foreign income came from sales and rentals of film and accessories in Great Britain, and included in 1946 profits was about $7,300,000 of net revenues from Great Britain. Corresponding figures for the 26 weeks ended June 28, 1947, [illegible] approximately $7,280,000 and $3[illegible]000, respectively. British currency difficulties have also had repercussions in other parts of the world and movements of funds between countries may be further restricted. The company's management believes that these and other contingencies may make it desirable to borrow money for working-capital purposes from time to time during the next three years."

After pointing out that 20th-Fox had already borrowed $5,000,000 under the credit agreement, the proxy statement added: "It is anticipated additional borrowings may become necessary due primarily to uncertainties in foreign distribution which in 1946 produced 37.7 per cent of its worldwide film rentals and 39.4 per cent for the first 26 weeks of 1947."

Amounts of the loans agreed to by the banks from the date of the agreement, Sept. 4, up to Sept. 14, 1950, are: Chase National Bank, $8,000,000; Bankers Trust Co., $6,000,000; Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, Los Angeles, $4,000,000; Manufacturers Trust, $4,000,000; Chemical Bank and Trust, $2,000,000; Commercial National Bank and Trust, $1,000,000.

Any borrowings under the credit agreement will bear interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent per annum until Sept., 1949; one and three-quarters per cent until Sept., 1950, and thereafter at the rate of two per cent. The company agreed to pay each bank a commitment fee at the rate of one-quarter of one per cent per annum on the daily average unused amount of the commitment of each bank.

Nelson Awaits Word

(Contnued from page 1)

nor was he at liberty to discuss the manner in which he set forth the independent producers' present financial current plight. U. S. banks have halted loans to independents because of the current loss of the British market for new product.

However, other sources here indicated "substantial" loans were asked on the basis that the independents figure to be hardest hit because of the economic conditions of foreign countries, particularly England, and any compromise with the latter would still mean at least a substantial blocking of remittances. It was said the independent at the present time requires a quicker return of funds whereas any "freezing" would not so severely hit the larger film companies which could, probably, invest blocked money in British production, exhibition, or other projects.

Garity Joins Lantz

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Cartoon producer Walter Lantz has appointed William E. Garity, former production manager of Disney Studios, as his assistant in charge of production.

Ia.-Neb. Allied to Oppose Ascap Tax

ELDORA, Ia., Sept. 28.—Allied ITO of Iowa-Nebraska is shaping plans for opposing increased theatre music taxes by the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, involving either litigation or Congressional action, with the latter regraded as most likely, members are [illegible] by Leo F. Wolcott, board chairman, in a current bulletin.

Meanwhile, members are advised to take advantage of Ascap's offer to defer imposition of the new rates and to petition the U. S. Attorney General to take action against the Society.

The bulletin reports that the organization was advised by Charles M. Reagan, Paramount vice-president and general sales manager, that, contrary to earlier reports, Paramount never had considered an advanced admission policy for "Welcome Stranger."

New TOA Board

(Contnued from page 1)

posed new theatre music license fees.

Several units, such as Kansas-Missouri MPTO, Tri-States MPTO and the MPTO of Connecticut already have scheduled conventions and will elect a director to the TOA board at their meetings. Other units are urged to schedule meetings promptly in the hope that the national organization's board may be completely organized by the end of October. A meeting of the new board is to be held as soon as directors have been elected.

With at least 30 days believed to be required to elect the new board, and with Ascap having granted only a four months' delay, from Oct. 1, in the effective date of its new rates, instead of the six months requested by TOA, the national organization points out to member units that the time for actual negotiations with Ascap may be less than 90 days.

TOA's Ascap committee cannot be formally authorized to negotiate, or conclude a deal with the Society, on behalf of TOA members until the board is formed, approves the formation of a permanent committee on Ascap problems and empowers it to act.

The same applies to the designation of other permanent committees recommended by the TOA convention, as well as to the employment of an executive director, a public relations director and others.

Indications are that most of the former MPTOA units will reelect those who represented them on the old MPTOA board, in most cases the presidents of the regional organizations.

TOA Is Setting Plans For a House-Organ

Arrangements are expected to be completed shortly for the periodic publication by the new Theatre Owners of America of a house-organ. Format is undecided as yet, but it is understood that the editorial content will be exclusively factual information, with no editorials or other opinionated matter.

Ascap Willing to Discuss

(Continued from page 1)

of America must await the appointment of a directorate which in turn would approve a music tax program.

Deems Taylor, Ascap president, on Friday confirmed that the board had voted to continue existing contracts to Feb. 1, with all theatremen whose contracts expire before that time, as exclusively reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Friday. As Taylor explained it, the board acted "on the desire to allow ample time for a final disposition of the questions as between the society and the motion picture exhibitors."

Robert W. Coyne, TOA executive director, and Herman Levy, general counsel, started conferences with Herman Greenberg, Ascap's licensing chief, and I. T. Cohen, division manager, immediately on Friday with all later reporting that the meeting was designed solely to acquaint the TOA officials with the action taken by the Ascap board the previous day.

Whether TOA will invite other organizations in a stand against Ascap also remains for board consideration, both Coyne and Levy said, adding, however, TOA would in all likelihood welcome cooperation from other groups whose views on the matter run parallel with TOA's. Coyne said he is hopeful of a board meeting within 30 days, despite the fact that TOA is not expected to have a complete board for at least 60 days.

Ascap's Greenberg has yet to formulate any plans for negotiation procedure although it was said in some quarters he may call on some exhibitor leaders in the field in addition to discussions with a TOA delegation.

For the purpose of its Washington meeting earlier this month, TOA had appointed a special Ascap committee of which Elmer C. Rhoden, president of Fox Midwest Theatres, Kansas City, was chairman. Coyne considers it not unlikely that the TOA will continue in existence the same group, which included Ray Cooper, Edward Fabian, Maurey Miller, Paul Williams, Edward L. Hyman, Dan Michalove, Sol Schwartz and Oscar Doob. Schwartz is with RKO Theatres, Doob is an executive of Loew's and neither circuit has joined TOA as yet.

ITOA Out of MMPTA Anti-Ascap Program

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of N. Y. will act against Ascap on its own, rather than take part in the program adopted by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association with which it is affiliated, Fred Schwartz, MMPTA president, disclosed here Friday.

Industry Confusion Averted By Ascap Extension: Gamble

Ascap's extension of theatre contracts is characterized as a move which will serve to prevent industry confusion, by Ted R. Gamble, president of Theatre Owners of America. TOA's request for the time extension "is an example of the sane approach to industry problems which we hope" will mark all TOA activities, he said.

New Police Threat

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 28.—Children under 12 should not be permitted to attend theatres or other public places during the current local polio outbreak, said Dr. Ollie M. Goodloe, city health commissioner, but plans no stringent action barring children from public gatherings pending further developments.

Pittman Has a Fire

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 28.—The Sky Club Open Air Theatre at Jacksonville, N. C., owned by Jimmy Pittman, has closed after fire completely destroyed the projection room and equipment. Pittman, who said that he was not covered by insurance, estimated the damage at $9,000.

Loudon Circuit Formed

LOUDON, Tenn., Sept. 28.—Loudon Theatres, Inc., has been organized here to own and operate theatres and other amusement places. Incorporators are: Charles Colville, C. D. Walling, Cowan Oldham and Ernest Smallman.

Sell Twisp House

TWISP, Wash., Sept. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. Van Gortel have purchased the Twisp Theatre here from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Airey. The sale ends 24 years of theatre operation for the Van Gortels.

Fire Destroys Theatre

McMINNVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 28.—The Park Theatre here, a Cumberland Amusement house, has been destroyed by fire.

UA-RKO Deal

(Contnued from page 1)

vulged this week, according to present indications.

It is understood that Sears and RKO president N. Peter Rathvon, who have screened eight pictures for consideration, are in agreement in principle regarding the transfer, but details remain to be worked out.

[MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported last Wednesday that the deal would involve seven RKO features, valued at $9,000,000, to relieve an impending product shortage.]

Opposition to the acquisition of outside product, which developed among some UA producers, appeared to be diminishing at the weekend under assurances that Sears' plan contemplates protection rather than embarrassment of UA's regularly contributing producers.

Sears, accompanied by UA vice-president George Bagnall, spent Friday closeted with executives of Los Angeles banks which in the past have financed the bulk of UA's production. The meeting was believed to be an attempt at working out means of making immediately available a $5,000,000 rotating fund which, it was recalled, Sears said he had arranged prior to his appointment as UA president.

The date for a formal meeting between the UA management and producers, tentatively set for Thursday, will be fixed following arrival here today of vice-president Arthur W. Kelly.

Tesma Officers

(Continued from page 1)

Grand Rapids, was reelected vice-president, and Roy Boomer, of Chicago, reelected secretary-treasurer.

The Association also voted to increase its board of directors from six members to 12, and to increase member dues from $50 to $75 a year.

Five directors reelected were: Harry Strong, Strong Electric Corp., Toledo; V. J. Nolan, National Carbon Co., Inc., New York; E. Wagner, Wagner Sign Service, Inc., Chicago; E. J. Vallen, Vallen, Inc., Akron; and H. B. Engel, DeVry Corp., Chicago.

The seven new directors are: M. H. Stevens, Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester; J. R. Hoff, Ballantyne Co., Omaha; W. D. Matthews, Motiograph, Inc., Chicago; L. W. Davee, Century Projector Corp., New York; Lee Jones, Neu-Made Products, New York; Bert Sanford, Altec Lansing Corp., Hollywood; and J. F. O'Brien, RCA, Camden.

At a meeting of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, J. Eldon Peek, of the Oklahoma Theatre Supply Co., Oklahoma City, was elected vice-president. The association also adopted a new constitution and by-laws.

TESMA-TEDPA Meet Sees Video Test

By A. L. OTTEN

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—National Broadcasting and RCA are staging a three-day demonstration of large-screen television here in connection with the joint TESMA-TEDPA convention, and the general opinion of delegates who have seen the showing can be summed up with: It's come far but it still has a long wav to go. The convention will adjourn tomorrow.

Most impressive part of the showing, on a six-by-eight screen, is an interview from the NBC studios atop the Wardman Park Hotel, where the demonstration is being given. A televised interview Friday between NBC correspondent Bill Herson and Washington Redskin owner George Marshall was particularly good in close-up shots. A series of shorts relayed from New York varied considerably in quality, with some newsreel shots of President Truman's homecoming from Brazil coming through especially well.

Never, even at its highest peak, did the televising approach the clarity of the motion picture, and the cumulative eye-strain was considerable. But the showing certainly was far superior to anything yet shown in these parts in the theatre television category.

Stewart To Be Cited

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 28.—James Stewart will receive the Chamber of Commerce's first annual award for the Pennsylvanian who has contributed the most to his industry, at a luncheon on Oct. 13, marking the opening of "Pennsylvania Week" here. Gov. James H. Duff and Orus J. Matthews, Pennsylvania Secretary of Commerce, will also be guests at the luncheon, to be held at the Bellevue-Stratford, and Duff will make the presentation to Stewart.

Buck Buchanan Dies

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Buck Buchanan, sales manager of the Kroehler Manufacturing Co., Chicago, died of a heart attack Friday while attending the TESMA-TEDPA convention here.

Revise Structure of MexicanCommission

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 28.—Industry protests that the recently-organized National Cinematographic Commission is a trust, a monopoly and totalitarian and a "cloak for communism" have ended, with Dr. Hector Martinez Perez, Secretary of the Interior, chief government department, making the Commission what he styles truly representative of the industry. He has appointed to it two representatives each of producers, distributors and exhibitors and one of the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union, Mexico's original film labor organization.

Antonio Castro Leal, head of the government's censorship department, which functions under the Ministry of the Interior, continues as chairman of the Commission, the true object of which, asserted Dr. Perez, is to "improve and develop the Mexican motion picture industry."

Denying reports that the Commission will totally control the industry, Perez said it will not in the least interfere with private companies. Censorship will remain under the Ministry's control, with the Commission's principal function being to improve Mexican pictures from a strictly entertainment slant. All of the Commission's expenses are paid by the government.

Girosi Brings Eight Films from Italy

Marcello Girosi, president of Superfilm, has returned here from Rome with eight new pictures, among them "Chartreuse de Parme," said to cost $1,000,000. During his four months abroad, Girosi also concluded plans for a series of English-language films, to be made in Rome, with himself and Christian Jacques as co-producers. Two of the new importations, to be shown this season, are "Rigoletto" and "Christmas, Concentration Camp 19."

Girosi said, "I believe the future of the Italian industry lies in the production of English-language and French-language films, in conjunction with American, British and French industries."

New Salzburg Company

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Salzburg's famed "Festspielhaus" will see service as a motion picture studio, according to the War Department, on word, relayed from Austria. The Army said the newly-founded Salzburg Motion Picture Corp. will use the music house as a studio until arrangements can be made for the Klessheim premises.

French Film Opening Set

Distinguished Films' "Midnight in Paris," new French film, will have a dual American premiere on Wednesday at Brandt's Apollo here and Atlantic Playhouse in Brooklyn. The film is the first of nine foreign productions announced for American release on a one-a-month schedule by Distinguished.

Jannings to Argentina

German film star Emil Jannings, and his family, have obtained Austrian citizenship and are in that country awaiting visas to emigrate to Argentina, according to press dispatches reaching here from Vienna.

Mexico City Will Be Top Theatre Town

Mexico City, Sept. 28.—This city of 3,000,000 is in immediate line to become Latin America's biggest theatre town, with 100 in operation next fall. There are now 88, with the others scheduled to be completed by Oct. 1, 1948.

Some film men say that 100 may be too many, in view of the spreading economic troubles, but most exhibitors opine that there will be an ample public for all of the theatres because motion pictures are by far Mexico's favorite entertainment, in both good times and hard ones.

U.S. Films in Berlin Are Drawing Double

Hollywood films released in the American sector of Berlin are averaging about double the attendance drawn by British, French and Russian pictures in their respective zones, according to word from Dr. R. F. Goldschmidt, manager of the Motion Picture Export Association's Berlin branch.

Goldschmidt's report, covering box-office figures on films exhibited in all sectors of the German capital since the start of post-war occupation, discloses that American product attracts an average of 450,000 Berliners for each picture, against relative attendance totals of 280,000 for both British and French pictures, and an average under 200,000 per picture for Russian films.

Goldschmidt points out that there are 64 theatres in the American area, with a population of 983,000, against 43 in the British zone with a population of 615,000, and 32 in the French zone with 434,000. In the Russian orbit, there are 1,183,000 and 88 theatres.

30 - Million Czech Admissions in Year

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—Close to 30,000,000 admissions in Czechoslovakia have been clocked at Czech theatres showing U. S. films in the past 12 months, according to a U. S. Department of Commerce estimate. This figure is 30 to 40 per cent of the country's total motion picture attendance.

Several U. S. films draw an attendance of more than 1,000,000, which is considered very high for a single picture, the report states. A number of pictures with war themes have been among the most popular released in Prague by U. S. distributors.

Cauvin Belgian Head Of Newsreel Unit

BRUSSELS, Sept. 28.—Andre Cauvin has been elected president of the Association de la Presse Filmee Belge, Belgian newsreel association.

Cauvin is a leading newsreel producer in Belgium. During the war he made a short on the Belgian Congo which was released in the United States by Warner Brothers.

E-L Sets 27

(Contnued from page 1)

eration on point-of-sales selling," with each picture in the 1947-48 schedule to be "merchandised as intensively as though it were the company's sole production of the year."

"The entire Eagle-Lion sales policy is based on the feeling that showmanship is still very much alive," Schwalberg told the meeting which was addressed also by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity-exploitation; Al Suchman, Eastern sales manager; L. E. Goldhammer, Western sales chief, and Harold Dunn, circuit sales head.

E-L's 1947-48 Hollywood-made releases will be: "Out of the Blue," starring George Brent and Virginia Mayo; "Love From a Stranger," starring Sylvia Sidney and John Hodiak; "Adventures of Casanova," with Arturo de Cordova, Lucille Bremer and Turhan Bey; "T-Men," starring Dennis O'Keefe and Mary Meade; "Prelude to Night," starring Zachary Scott, Sidney Greenstreet and Lucille Bremer; "Northwest Stampede," with James Craig and Joan Leslie; "The Man From Texas," starring James Craig and Lynn Bari.

Also, "Whispering City," with Helmut Dantine and Paul Lukas; "Clementine," starring Lois Butler; "Corkscrew Alley," with Richard Basehart; "Kenny," starring Cathy O'Donnell; "The Enchanted Valley," with Edmund Lowe and Brenda Joyce; "Draw Sabres," starring Randolph Scott and Dennis O'Keefe; "Beggar's Choice," with Joel McCrea; "The Return of Rin Tin Tin," in color; "The Noose Hangs High," starring Bud Abbott and Lou Costello, and "Montana."

The Rank releases will include: "The Smugglers" in Technicolor, starring Michael Redgrave; "Take My Life," starring Hugh Williams; "Green for Danger," starring Trevor Howard, and "October Man."

The Small reissues will include: "Count of Monte Cristo," "Son of Monte Cristo," "My Son, My Son," "International Lady," "A Gentleman After Dark" and "The Man in the Iron Mask."

Youngstein Appoints Bayes

Peter Bayes has been named by Eagle-Lion advertising-publicity director Max E. Youngstein as assistant to Leon Brandt, field exploitation representative for the Chicago district. Bayes will cover the Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Indianapolis areas.

Krim, Wanger Discuss Deal for E-L Release of Latter's Films

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 28.—Arthur B. Krim, president of Eagle Lion, was in negotiation with Walter Wanger and David Tannenbaum, the latter's secretary-treasurer, at the weekend on a deal for E-L release of an undetermined number of Wanger productions.

Astral in Film Deal

TORONTO, Sept. 28.—Astral Films, here, headed by I. H. Allen, has secured distribution rights in French-Canadian areas of four Canadian Provinces for French-language releases of Canada's National Film Board which are to be issued as the "En Avant Canada" (Forward Canada) series.

Short Subjects

"Engulfed Cathedral"

(*United Artists*)

Using the myth of an undersea cathedral for visual background, this David L. Loew Musicolor short, in Cinecolor, opens with music by Tchaikovsky, followed by a Debussy selection. It forms a fresh and arr[illegible]g subject as the imagery of the en[illegible]d cathedral floats across the screen to soothing musical strains. Werner Janessen conducts the Janssen Symphony Orchestra of Los Angeles. An opening foreword was written by Oscar Hammerstein II. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Moonlight"

(*United Artists*)

To the lilting strains of Claude Debussy's "Clair De Lnne" the subject presents a romantic garden statue o a boy and girl which suddenly springs to real life. A David L. Loew Musicolor short, in Cinecolor, it spreads a soft and relaxing atmosphere, and wil round out almost any program with distinction and appeal. Running time 7 minutes.

"Glamour Town"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Offered in this Technicolor "Adventure Special" is a cinematic survey of Hollywood. Shown are Grauman's Chinese Theatre, Hollywood and Vine restaurants and clubs, film studios, the Hollywood Bowl, and other items o interest. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Hold That Lion"

(*Columbia*)

The Three Stooges are up to their usual nonsense, this time aided and abetted by a lion. In pursuit of the villain who has stolen their uncle's inheritance, the Stooges wind up on a speeding train in the company of a lion. Running time, 16½ minutes.

Houses in London Turn to Revivals

LONDON, Sept. 28.—First-run house in the West End here are turning to revivals because of the halt in film imports from the United States following the 75 per cent tax.

The Empire Theatre in Leiceste Square is reviving "Random Harvest." Another first-run recently played is "For Whom the Bell Tolls."

Canadian Film Entries

National Film Board of Canada ha announced from its New York distribution office the entry of four of it films in the Films of the World Festival, to be held in Chicago for seven consecutive Saturdays, starting Oct 11. The subjects are: "The Feeling of Rejection," "La Poulette Grise," "Vegetable Insects," and "Common Concern."

Honor Ingrid Bergman

Ingrid Bergman has won the Venice Festival Award, said to be the highes European film honor, for giving "the best performance of the year," in David O. Selznick's "Spellbound," th Selznick office, here, reports.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

V 62. NO. 64 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1947 TEN CENTS

Owners Won't Find Bldg. Code Costly

Official Says Only Small Reconstruction Needed

The majority of theatre owners in New York State are assured that the newly-revised State building code will not require costly structural changes. Statements to this effect were made here by State Industrial Code referee John Coggeshall yesterday. He participated as a special adviser at all of the various public hearings on the Code held this year.

Only those theatres which present stage shows, Coggeshall said, will be subject to any extensive structural

(*Continued on page 7*)

KMTA Convention Will Open Today

Kansas City, Sept. 29.—A pre-convention country club party and golf tournament drew visitors in early for the convention of the Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association, which starts with registration tomorrow morning at the Hotel Phillips.

Visitors on the convention program include Leo J. Bamberger, RKO Ra-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Universal, Warners Reduce Clearances

Cleveland, Sept. 29.—Universal-International and Warners will entertain exhibitor proposals for 21-day clearance deals to "de luxe" subsequent-run theatres in place of the current 35-day clearance, in a new policy similar to one recently announced by the 20th Century-Fox general sales manager, Andrew W. Smith, Jr., it is reported by Peter Dana, Universal district manager, and Jerry Wechsler, Warner branch manager. I. J. Schmertz, 20th-Fox branch manager, reports several 21-day clearance deals have been consummated. Columbia also has announced 21-day clearances.

Augment MPF Area Posts This Week

When the New York Metropolitan area unit of the Motion Picture Foundation this week elects a national trustee and permanent area chairman, the national MPF organization will have a total of 43 area officers in those categories in 24 cities. Additionally, some 412 area committeemen have been elected.

Only two of the 31 originally-designated exchange cities have not yet set up organizational machinery: Indianapolis and Los Angeles. Temporary chairmen are expected to be named for those areas shortly. In five cities, temporary chairmen are about to call area organizational meetings at which national trustees, permanent chairmen, committeemen, and other officers will be elected. They are: Cleveland, Denver, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Portland.

Most recent area to be organized is Seattle, where B. F. Shearer was elected national trustee; John Hamrick, permanent area chairman; James McNabb, vice-chairman, and James M. Hone, secretary-treasurer.

It is expected at MPF headquarters, here, that all area organizational activity will be completed by next month so that arrangements can be made then for holding a national trustees meeting at a yet-to-be designated city.

Carriers Re-elect Clark President

Kansas City, Sept. 29.—James P. Clark was re-elected today as president of National Film Carriers at the organization's convention at the Hotel Muehlebach here. All other officers and committee members were also re-elected, except that Gladys Pike of Film Truck Service, Detroit, was named to replace Harold C. Robinson, also of Film Truck Service, on the board of managers.

John B. McCullough, director of

(*Continued on page 6*)

Century Theatres Opens Meet Today

Century Theatres' first "showmanship convention" will open this morning at the Waldorf-Astoria here, with 37 theatre managers, five district managers and all home office officials in attendance. Vice-president Fred J. Schwartz, in his opening address, will

(*Continued on page 7*)

Honor Johnston for Aid in World War II

Washington, Sept. 29.—The Medal of Merit, "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service to the U. S. from Oct., 1942, to Dec., 1946." was presented today to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, by Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall.

The citation pointed out that Johnston "early in the war was instrumental in bringing about the adoption of the management - labor charter, in which both management and labor agreed to refrain from strikes and lockouts during the war." It also stated that Johnston served on the State Department's economic policy committee and visited South America on a mission assigned to him by the late President Roosevelt.

N. Y. Group Votes Budget of $47,500

A budget of $47,500 for its second year of operation was voted by the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association at its first annual meeting here yesterday. The group functioned under a budget of $25,000 in its first year, the increase being attributed to the retention of legal counsel.

In a review of its activities, MMPTA listed a number of causes and organizations to which it had lent its support in the form of exhibition

(*Continued on page 7*)

Banks Lending, But 'Carefully': Riskin

Although banks which have been identified with the financing of independent film production are being "more careful" about lending as a result of the British tax situation, all of them have not actually retired from that operation, Robert Riskin, independent producer releasing through RKO Radio, reported here yesterday.

"If the set-up is right, the banks will finance," said Riskin, who arrived here yesterday from the Coast for two weeks of conferences with RKO Radio distribution executives on forthcoming Riskin product. The "set-up is right," he said, when the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Stand on 'Red' Probe Stated By Johnston

Letter to Thomas Says Hearing Is Welcomed

Washington, Sept. 29. — The motion picture industry accepts responsibility for "what goes on the screen" but not for the political or economic views of any individual, Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, today told Rep. J. Parnell Thomas, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, whose hearings on communism in Hollywood are scheduled to open here on Oct. 20.

The Johnston statement is contained in a letter to Thomas in which the MPA president says the industry welcomes the inquiry as "a chance to meet squarely any charges which have been leveled against it and to bring out into the open and expose ugly rumors, innuendos and reckless accusations."

Johnston offers to supplement the list of witnesses sought by the committee with additional persons who, he informs Thomas, "can give you the facts."

The industry, Johnston's letter says, "denies without reservation" the charge that it has put "subversive, un-American propaganda on the screen."

"The pictures themselves are proof of its complete falsity," he asserts.

If the charge were true, Johnston observes, "the American people would have discovered it long ago, and would have told us so."

"We abhor and detest communism," he declares.

Following is the text of Johnston's letter to Thomas: "You have announced the Committee will begin hearings October 20 in Washington on alleged un-American influences in motion pictures.

"We welcome this inquiry. It gives

(*Continued on page 7*)

20th's Small House Formula Hits Snag

The 20th-Fox formula to aid small-town theatres and sub-subsequent runs in large cities; which was launched on Aug. 11, has not won acceptance nationally, it was learned yesterday.

Although the plan has been offered widely, owners of the theatres to whom the formula was advanced, have

(*Continued on page 7*)

120 'U' Reissues in Realart-UF Deal

Dallas, Sept. 29.—A five-year deal for Universal reissues has been closed by Budd Rogers, vice-president of Realart Pictures, with John W. Mangham and J. Francis White, Jr., acting for United Film Distributors, and covering 10 exchange centers. Deal is for 24 pictures per year for five years.

Releases will begin late in October or early November and will be planned on a unit basis, two subjects being released together with combination press books, paper and trailers for each unit. The 10 exchange centers are: Charlotte, J. Francis White, Jr.; Atlanta, John W. Mangham; Memphis and New Orleans, Ernest Landaiche; Dallas, John L. Franconi; Oklahoma City, Carl Scott; St. Louis, Andy Dietz, and Kansas City, Des Moines and Omaha, Julian King. United Film will act jointly for the 10 centers on future deals and will extend to other centers according to plans.

Walsh, '306' Group In Long Conference

Results of the meeting between Richard F. Walsh, international president of the IATSE, and the negotiating committee of projectionists' Local No. 306, in an effort to settle the stalemate between the local and representatives of RKO, Loew, Warner and Paramount theatres, were unavailable at a late hour last night. The meeting began yesterday afternoon and continued late into the evening.

Officials at the "IA" international office were confident that a peaceful settlement would be reached, although Local 306 officials have indicated that strike action may be taken.

SOPEG Rally Today Before Wage Talks

A Times Square demonstration will be held here today by members of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, CIO, shortly before SOPEG officials meet with company representatives at the Hotel Astor in wage negotiations.

Company representatives are expected to present a counter-proposal to SOPEG's demand for a 30 per cent or $10 weekly wage increase, whichever is higher.

Enjoin Nebenzal on Film

Los Angeles, Sept. 29.—Superior Court Judge Allen W. Eshburn has issued a temporary injunction restraining Seymour Nebenzal, producer, from interfering with the showing of "Mayerling." Plaintiff is the Swiss corporation, Quoder Kino, which is said to hold world rights and which issued English rights to Nebenzal. Plaintiff charges Nebenzal entered into an agreement with the heirs of Claude Anet, author of the story, in violation of its pact. Louis Nizer represents Quoder and David Mellinkoff of Herzbrun and Chantry is counsel for Nebenzal.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. KALMINE, Warner Theatres president and general manager; W. Stewart McDonald, vice-president, and Rudolph Weiss, real estate department head, are due in Chicago today from New York.

•

Fred Abelson, manager of Film Classics in San Francisco, and N. Buck Smith, FC sales manager of that city, are in town for a sales conference.

•

Francis T. Flood has been elected president of the New England unit of the Warner Club, employes' organization.

•

Mrs. Gratia B. Locke, owner of the Savoy Theatre, Louisville, has returned to that city from a month's vacation in Chicago.

•

R. A. Parsons of the Grand Theatre, Frankfort, Ky., is on vacation, and Leonard Bale of the Burley Theatre, Shelbyville, Ky., is relieving him.

•

Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

Bill Brown, manager of the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, Conn., and Mrs. Brown are parents of a son.

•

Rudy Berger, M-G-M Southern sales manager, will leave New Orleans tomorrow for Dallas.

•

Bern Gold has been named Republic office manager in Salt Lake City to succeed the late Nina Scott.

•

J. T. Robertson has resigned as manager of the Ben Ali Theatre, Lexington, Ky.

•

Robert L. Lippert, Screen Guild Prod. vice-president, is expected here today from San Francisco.

•

Cecil B. DeMille will arrive here today by train from Hollywood.

•

Jack Rieger of Trinity Picture has returned here from Hollywood.

GEORGE PAL, cartoon producer, is in New York from California.

•

George A. Smith, Paramount Western division sales manager, and Harold Wirthwein, captain of the company's 1947 sales drive, are on a tour of Midwestern branches.

•

William Brandt, head of Brandt Theatres, is hospitalized at Doctors' Hospital here after undergoing an operation Saturday.

•

Leonard Goldstein, Universal-International producer, will return to the Coast from New York at the end of this week.

•

Richard F. Walsh, president of IATSE, will leave here Thursday for San Francisco to attend the AFL convention.

•

John Jones, president of Screen Guild Prod., is in Chicago from Hollywood.

•

Paul Hollister, RKO Radio publicity director, will return here from the Coast today.

•

Ira Phillips, field representative of Joy Theatres, Moreauville, La., was a New Orleans visitor last week.

•

Alfred N. Sack of Sack Amusement Co., Dallas, and Mrs. Sack are in town for a week.

•

William Goetz, Universal-International production chief, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

F. T. Van Nieman, Motiograph Co. sound engineer, was in Louisville recently from Chicago.

•

Walter E. Banford, M-G-M Chicago district manager, has returned to his post in that city from New York.

•

John J. Maloney, M-G-M Central sales manager, is in town from Pittsburg for home office conferences.

•

W. J. Heineman, Prestige Pictures sales head, has left here for Montana on a two-week hunting trip.

'The Outlaw' Is Ruled Out for Maryland

Baltimore, Sept. 29.—The pros and cons of the "morality" of Jane Russell's attire and other aspects of "The Outlaw" were argued in City Court here in an appeal from the Maryland Board of Censors' ban on the film. Judge E. Paul Mason, after seeing the picture and hearing both sides, upheld the board's ban. As a result, "The Outlaw" cannot be shown in Maryland. Benjamin Hance is chairman of the board of examiners.

Kansas Cuts 'Outlaw'

Kansas City, Kans., Sept. 29.—The State board of review has approved "The Outlaw" for showing in Kansas, after eliminations.

Binford 'Sharpens Axe' for 'Amber'

Memphis, Sept. 29.—Lloyd T. Binford, chairman of the Memphis Board of Censors, said today that he is "sharpening his axe" for "Forever Amber." They claim Hollywood is cleaning it up and they had better because if it is as dirty as I've heard, I'm sure going to do something quick when it comes to town," Binford said.

About Hal Roach's "Comedy Carnival," Binford said: "I didn't ban the picture in Memphis. I merely wrote to United Artists and told them the school scene must be left out because the races are not mixed in Southern schools. United Artists then decided not to exhibit the picture here," he said.

Constitution for NJ Federation in Making

The constitutional committee of the new permanent Federation of New Jersey Theatre Owners met at the offices of Allied of New Jersey, here, yesterday to draft a report on a constitution.

On the committee are: George Gold, Walter Reade, Jr., Lee Newbury, Harold Blumenthal and Murray Miller.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Rita HAYWORTH Larry PARKS
"DOWN TO EARTH"
A Columbia Picture . IN TECHNICOLOR
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

SAMUEL GOLDWYN presents
DANNY KAYE · VIRGINIA MAYO
and the Goldwyn Girls in
The Secret Life of Walter Mitty
in TECHNICOLOR
ASTOR BROADWAY & 45th Street

3rd MONTH ON B'WAY!
DORE SCHARY presents
"Crossfire"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE
RIVOLI B'WAY & 49th ST

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
DAVID NIVEN
'THE OTHER LOVE'
IN PERSON
LEW PARKER
Extra!
THREE FLAMES
Plus OTHERS

LIZABETH SCOTT
JOHN HODIAK
BURT LANCASTER
IN HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Desert Fury"
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
A Paramount Picture
in Person
"MR TEMPO"
DESI ARNAZ
And His Orchestra
DULCINA
RUDY CARDENAS
THE 3 NONCHALANTS
Extra MARION HUTTON
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
HENRY FONDA · BARBARA BEL GEDDES
VINCENT PRICE · ANN DVORAK
THE LONG NIGHT
A HAKIM-LITVAK Production
RELEASED BY RKO RADIO

"Will do your heart good!"
— Hale, *News*
WALT DISNEY'S New
Musical Cartoon Feature
"FUN AND FANCY FREE"
Color by Technicolor
Brandt's GLOBE B'way and 46th Street

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Coast Group Delays Membership in TOA

San Francisco, Sept. 29.—A postponement of any definite action regarding the affiliation of the California Theatres Association with the Theatre Owners Association, was decided upon at a general meeting of the association.

Roy Cooper, manager for Golden State Theatres and a member of the board of the CTA, represented the association at the recent Washington TOA confab.

E-L Sales Meet Ends Here Today

The four-day Eagle-Lion sales meeting will wind up here today with a series of meetings between Al Suchman, Eastern division manager, L. E. (Nicky) Goldhammer, Western division manager, and their respective district managers. The sessions are being conducted at the Warwick Hotel here by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, and to home office executives, including Harold Dunn, circuit sales manager; Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation; Jerry Pickman, his assistant, and various department heads.

Setting the tone of the meeting, Schwalberg declared that when the 16 district managers depart for their respective offices, it will be "with increased faith in E-L's product" and that they will impart this "newly-augmented enthusiasm to branch managers, salesmen and bookers throughout their territories." Individual booking problems will be taken up at the final sessions today, with special attention to "each and every situation" as far as possible.

Arthur B. Krim, E-L president, is expected to arrive from the Coast this morning for the meeting, bringing late news of production activities at the company's Hollywood studios.

Eight More to Go For Eagle Lion

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—Eagle Lion will roll with three top-budget films during October as the first unit in eight major productions scheduled for the balance of the year, it was announced here today by Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production.

First of the October productions will be "Clementine," in Cinecolor, a musical starring Lois Butler. October will also see the beginning of "The Noose Hangs High," Abbott and Costello-starring comedy, which Charles Barton will direct. Final film will be "Corkscrew Alley," starring Dennis O'Keefe.

Induct Club Officers

New officers of the Paramount Pictures Club, headed by Monroe R. Goodman, will be inducted today at the initial meeting of 1947-48, to be held in the home office recreation room. Cecil B. DeMille will be guest of honor. Honorary membership will be conferred on the latter.

Investment Deal in Australia Undecided

No answer has been received yet from the Australian government on an offer by American film companies to invest 33⅓ per cent of their Australian film income in that country, foreign department heads said here yesterday.

However, Australian sources predicted that the U. S. companies "are expected" to agree to the Australian government's plan under which their remittances would be cut by 40 per cent as compared to 1946. In that year, earnings of American films in Australia amounted to about $6,600,000. According to Australian advices, the cut would mean that about $1,980,000 would have to be re-invested in Australia.

The plan, according to the Australian sources, was worked out by experts of the Australian Treasury and Prime Minister Chifley, together with representatives of American film companies in Australia. Pending the outcome of deliberations with the Australian government, executives in the foreign departments here decline to comment.

Australia to Seek Further Reductions in Imports

CANBERRA, Sept. 29.—At the request of Prime Minister J. B. Chifley, a master plan for further reductions of imports will be prepared by Customs Minister Ben Courtice for consideration by the Australian cabinet on Oct. 7.

Government spokesmen say that the goal of Courtice would be to make a saving of between $30,000,000 and $40,000,000.

Vog Imports 4 More French Productions

Arrival in this country of four more French-language films, which are being edited and English-titled for Broadway premieres, was announced here yesterday by Noel Meadow, vice-president of Vog-International Film Co., which will distribute them in the United States. First release is planned for October.

Films are: "Adventures of Casanova," in two parts; "Road to the Galleys," starring Viviane Romance, and "Les Roquevillard," which will be given an English title.

Three Separate Units For Rainbow Prod.

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—Expansion plans have been completed by Rainbow Productions, according to secretary-treasurer Early Rettig, and negotiations are now under way with three top directors to head individual producing units, to be financed by Rainbow and releasing through RKO-Radio.

Leo McCarey, who is now producing-directing "Good Sam," starring Gary Cooper and Ann Sheridan, for Rainbow, will be associated with one of the units as producer.

Modify Dubbing Policy

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 29. — M-G-M has modified its policy of Spanish-dubbed pictures for Mexico only by resuming the use of sub-titles at two theatres, the Cine Magerit and the Cine Lido.

Woods Cautions TOA On Price Stone Wall

Columbus, Sept. 29.—Hope that distributors will accord the new Theatre Owners of America "more courteous treatment" when TOA protests increased admission price films "than they gave the matter when it was broached to them" by the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio last June, has been expressed by Pete Wood, Ohio ITO secretary, in a report to his organization's membership.

The Ohio ITO protested increased admission price films in the form of a bulletin addressed to film company presidents last June, but apparently without success, Woods stated.

A TOA committee will be named shortly to meet with company presidents in an effort to reduce advanced scale product.

Foreign Heads Meet On Danish Curbs

Foreign department heads and representatives of the Motion Picture Association and the Motion Picture Export Association will meet here today to discuss restrictions planned by the Danish government on U. S. film imports.

Foreign department heads, it is understood, desire to know whether the Danish plan is final or whether there is room for further negotiations. One foreign department head characterized the Danish move as an attempt to place a ceiling on U. S. film company earnings there.

The Danish plan is understood to contemplate a policy under which all films entering Denmark after March 1, 1948, would have to be purchased outright by importers at a price fixed before the consummation of a deal.

The Danish move is interpreted as another restrictive measure in a series which have occurred in foreign countries since the imposition of the British *ad valorem* tax. Foreign department heads said they are reluctant to discuss the move until they obtain additional information.

Swedish Films Coming

Svensk Filmindustri, Stockholm, producer of the Swedish film, "Torment," is sending over several new productions, among them "Iris," starring Alf Kjellin and Mai Zetterling, both of whom appear in "Torment." Also coming is "The Woman Without a Face," in which Kjellin also appears. Awaiting customs clearance is "Katrina," with Frank Sundstrom. "Torment," being distributed here by Oxford Films, headed by Edward L. Kingsley, has opened for an indefinite run at the Squire Theatre, here.

Chicago Film Festival

CHICAGO, Sept. 29.—Office space for a "Films of the World Festival" has been donated to the Chicago Film Council by L. Mercer Francisco of Francisco Films.

J. G. Mayer, MGM Executive, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—J. G. Mayer, M-G-M studio production executive and brother of M-G-M production vice-president Louis B. Mayer, died this afternoon in Cedars of Lebanon Hospital after a prolonged illness.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday noon at Wilshire Temple, with Dr. Edgar F. Magnin officiating. Interment will be in Home of Peace Cemetery.

Mayer was born in Brooklyn on April 16, 1891. After the first World War he joined the L. B. Mayer Theatrical Enterprises in Haverhill, Mass., and in 1922 came here as plant manager of the latter's first studio, set up on the site of the old Selig Zoo. When M-G-M was formed in 1924, he became unit manager. He subsequently was appointed purchasing agent, assistant studio manager, in 1937, and studio manager shortly thereafter.

Mayer was first seriously stricken last year. He was intermittently active since. Surviving are the widow, Rheba; a son Gerald; another brother, Rudy; two sisters, Yetta Rieda Mayer and Ida Mayer Cummings.

Jacobo Glucksmann Dies Here at 64

Funeral services will be held at the Park West Memorial Chapel, here, tomorrow for Jacobo (Jack) Glucksmann, 64, owner of Pennant Products, one of the oldest agencies for the distribution of film and motion picture and radio equipment in South America. Glucksmann died here yesterday.

Carlos Glucksmann, brother of the deceased, is en route to New York by plane from South America to attend the funeral. Carlos has been in charge of the company's South American operations. There are no survivors living in the U. S.

Mose Gumble Is Dead

CHICAGO, Sept. 29.—Mose Gumble, New York music publisher's representative, died aboard the 20th Century Ltd., yesterday, shortly before the train arrived from New York. He was en route to California where he had scheduled business appointments with Hollywood stars.

Mrs. Antoinette Babin

ATLANTA, Sept. 29.—Services were held in New Orleans yesterday for Mrs. Antoinette Babin, mother of Mrs. N. E. Savini and mother-in-law of N. E. Savini, special Southern representative of Astor Pictures. Mrs. Babin died at her home in New Orleans on Friday.

Another DeMille Lunch

Cecil B. DeMille, producer-director of "Unconquered," and Neil Swanson, author, will be guests tomorrow at a luncheon at the St. Regis Hotel, here.

Para.-Wolfson Cancel

Paramount and writer-producer P. J. Wolfson have amicably cancelled their contract, which had two years to go.

World Premiere at Grauman's Chinese, Loew's State, Carthay Circle, Uptown and Loyola Theatres, Los Angeles...

Magic words for "MAGIC TOWN"

"There is so much in this picture for everybody that it is certain to register as a very solid attraction. Swell performances by every member of cast."
—*SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW*

"Will enjoy word-of-mouth attention with boxoffice response assured."
—*DAILY VARIETY*

JAMES STEWART

JANE WYMAN

M

Broadway Opening Palace Theatre, Oct. 7...Opening at the Long-Run Woods Theatre, Chicago, Soon...

Warm, human and believable
..will cut a passage to the
earts of millions...well de-
igned to keep grosses out of
he doldrums."
—*MOTION PICTURE DAILY*

Smart dialogue and superior
irection . . . Good boxoffice
ntry."
—*VARIETY*

"Contains all the elements that make for hefty boxoffice...realistic, warm, human, with the necessary humorous touch."
—*THE EXHIBITOR*

"Should do strong business generally."
—*BOXOFFICE*

"Should insure favorable boxoffice response."
—*HOLLYWOOD REPORTER*

in Robert Riskin's

GIC TOWN

WITH

KENT SMITH • NED SPARKS • WALLACE FORD • REGIS TOOMEY

Written and Produced by ROBERT RISKIN • Directed by WILLIAM A. WELLMAN

A William A. Wellman Production • Released by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by ents.

BALTIMORE

Major attractions arriving simultaneously with the first touch of fall weather is giving box-offices a much-needed boost. Openings were strong; followed by substantial weekend crowds. "Life With Father," at advanced prices, is doing big. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

BORN TO KILL (RKO Radio)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (21c-29c-45c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

CARNEGIE HALL (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $15,500)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—TOWN (1,450) (29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)

DESERT FURY (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,406) (29c-37c-44c-54c), and 56c weekends) 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $12,000)

GONE WITH THE WIND (M-G-M reissue)—VALENCIA (1,466) (29c-37c-46c-54c, and 56c weekends) 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (Advanced prices: 50c-90c-$1.25). Gross: $40,000. (Average at regular prices of 29c-37c-50c-58c: $16,500)

STORM IN THE TEACUP (Peerless)—LITTLE (328) (29c-37c-56c) 3rd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,750)

THE FOXES OF HARROW (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (29c-40c-50c-58c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $11,750)

WHEN A GIRL'S BEAUTIFUL (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (29c-37c-50c-58c). With a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,500)

ATLANTA

With the arrival of fall weather, business picked up slightly. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

IVY (U-I)—CAPITAL (2,446) (25c-37c). Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,500)

LIFE WITH FATHER (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (Advanced prices: 90c-$1.25). Gross: $22,500. (Average at regular prices of 12c-50c: $7,900)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (12c-50c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY (20th-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) (12c-50c). Gross: $6,750. (Average: $5,700)

THE WOMEN (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,447) (12c-50c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $19,000)

Now
"the Hollywood"
United's new DC-6 Mainliner 300 flight
OVERNIGHT TO LOS ANGELES!
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CINCINNATI

"Crossfire" is heading for a respectable gross in a week marked by spotty returns and unusually cool weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Sept. 30-Oct. 3:

THE ADVENTURESS (E-L) — RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)

BULLDOG DRUMMOND STRIKES BACK (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Dualed with **THE CASE OF THE BABY SITTER (Screen Guild).** Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)

CROSSFIRE (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

MARK OF ZORRO (20th-Fox reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Dualed with **DRUMS ALONG THE MOHAWK (20th-Fox reissue).** Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 3rd week, following an initial week at the Palace, and a first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $5,000)

THE OTHER LOVE (UA)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (U-I)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-65c-75c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,500)

WELCOME STRANGER (Para.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $10,000)

WOLF CALL (Mono. reissue)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 3 days. Dualed with **QUEEN OF THE YUKON (Mono. reissue).** Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

Cinema Lodge Fetes Mrs. Roosevelt Today

Record turnout is expected at the Hotel Astor tonight when New York's Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith pays tribute to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt for her contributions to human welfare and her efforts in promoting international understanding and inter-faith amity.

Cantor Leibele Waldman, assisted by Sam Sterner and his choir, will provide musical background for the evening which will also present Col. Murray Gurfein, legal adviser to the Jewish Agency for Palestine in its hearings before the United Nations Commission.

Carriers Re-elect

(*Continued from page* 1)

conservation of the Motion Picture Association, Washington, spoke on safe handling and transportation of film.

Film Distributors Convention Today

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 29.—An executive meeting was held here today by directors of National Film Distributors, preparatory to its convention, which will get underway tomorrow. The affiliated National Film Carriers, Inc., also held a session today before its meeting also starts officially tomorrow.

Both meetings are being held at the Muehlebach Hotel.

Pierce Quits Bogeaus

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29. — William Pierce, Jr., has resigned as advertising-publicity director of Benedict Bogeaus Productions, effective immediately.

Chicago Exhibitors Disturbed Over Tax

CHICAGO, Sept. 29.—The amusement industry of Chicago has called upon the City Council to defeat a proposed increased amusement tax as "an unfair burden on those least able to afford it," Edwin Silverman, a spokesman for the industry disclosed today. The tax would be imposed on admissions to all theatres, sports events and other amusements.

In a telegram sent to aldermen, it was pointed out that Chicagoans are already paying a 20 per cent Federal amusement tax, and as an example of the industry's present contribution to the city's support, the message cited the revenues paid by local theatres, license fees for which have increased 160 per cent in 10 years, with no appreciable increase in admissions other than taxes, are "the highest license fees of any business in the city" and the highest fees levied on the industry "by any large city."

Portland Passes 3% Admission Tax Bill

PORTSMOUTH, O., Sept. 29.—The city council, in a last-minute move, passed an amended three per cent admission tax, exempting benefits for religious organizations, servicemen and police and fire departments. A similar measure, to include all types of admissions, was tabled two weeks ago.

Present at the council meeting was C. A. Metro, operating the Eastland and Westland theatres, who protested on the ground that the tax was discriminatory in that it permitted operation of certain amusements without imposition of the tax. A yield of $20,000 annually is expected.

Tax Levies for Three More Ohio Towns

COLUMBUS, O., Sept. 29.—Theatres and other amusement places must pay a one dollar license fee in addition to a three per cent admission tax under provisions of a new levy passed by the Jackson, Ohio, City Council. Monthly reports and payment of amounts collected also are provided.

Chillicothe's City Council is drawing up an ordinance which conforms to the Cleveland tax levy, is based on a straight three per cent tax.

FWC Fights City Tax

STOCKTON, Cal., Sept. 29.—Balking against further payment of the amusement tax here, Fox West Coast Theatres has filed a claim with the City Council for a refund of $22,766 already expended. The circuit, which operates five houses in the city—the Fox, California, Rialto, Ritz and State, told the council, through city attorney William L. Dozier, that it intends to seek an injunction against collection of the tax.

Sherman to Film Opera

Producer Harry Sherman is here from Hollywood to confer with Lily Pons and other opera and concert names whom he wants for acting-singing assignments in his projected modernized version of "Carmen of the West." New edition of the opera, background against the frontier West, was written by Graham Baker and Teddi Sherman. On his return he will resume preparation for "Tennessee's Partner," his next for Enterprise.

Banks Lending

(*Continued from page* 1)

following values are established for a planned production: top stars and director, a first-rate story, and "creative people" who can assure confidence that the completed picture will rate its financial backing.

True, he said, some banks have refused to make loans to some independent producers since the British crisis, but, he added, this has been merely an "adjustments of sights" in banking circles.

As long ago as Aug. 13, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported that Eastern banks had started to suspend independent film financing because of the situation broad. Since then there have been reports that Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has been seeking Reconstruction Finance Corporation aid for the producers.

Although agreeing that the outlook for independent producers has not been very encouraging since Britain acted, Riskin said the independent "is not going out of business by a long shot." Independents must adjust to new conditions, he said—"that's all."

Riskin will attend the Oct. 7 opening at the Palace, here, of his "Magic Town." His next will be "Girl from Bogardus," now in the script-writing stage, and "You Belong to Me," now planned. Although he has no set contract with RKO Radio, he said, the two will probably be released by that company.

Majority of UA Producers Cool to Projected RKO Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29.—With the anticipated meeting here between United Artists management and contributing producers still undated, president Gradwell L. Sears late today was in conference with David Loew, chairman of the producer group, reportedly in an endeavor to reconcile the projected acquisition of several RKO Radio pictures with the producers' insistence upon being provided with financing for productions stymied when bankers tightened the lid on loans. The bankers' action followed imposition of the British *ad valorem* tax.

It is understood that a majority of the UA producers contends that the money required to purchase RKO finished product—a sum of $9,000,000, according to reports—should be earmarked instead for UA producers who have pictures ready to start. Sears, it is further understood, improved the banking situation somewhat in conferences with local banks, last week, but he is still determined to acquire the RKO films in order to bridge the anticipated winter product shortage.

Industry Will Solve UK Problem: Freed

Hollywood is facing the problems caused by the British tax with confidence and with the ability to cope with the situation, Arthur Freed, M-G-M producer, said here yesterday. Hollywood is not "panicky and it will readjust itself," Freed added.

Freed, who will remain here one week, said that his trip is chiefly "a pleasure trip," but that he had consulted with Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammersein II on their making a picture in Hollywood, as well as with Irving Berlin, who will shortly travel to the Coast to work on "Easter Parade."

Johnston Stand

(*Continued from page* 1)

our industry a chance to meet squarely any charges which have been leveled against it and to bring out into the open ugly rumors, innuendoes, and reckless accusations.

"While I speak only on behalf of the Motion Picture Association of America and the Association of Motion Picture Producers, I am confident that the entire industry is prepared to cooperate with your Committee so that this investigation may be thorough, fair, and conclusive, according to the best American traditions.

Favors Hearing All the Facts

"In making public a list of witnesses, you said the Committee wanted to obtain the facts and to hear both sides. In this respect we have a common interest. We want all the facts brought out from all sources. You will appreciate, I know, that in addition to the witnesses you have called there are many other persons in Hollywood who can give you the facts, help you sift truth from untruth, and thereby facilitate the work of the Committee. I can furnish you their names whenever you desire. I feel certain the Committee will want to hear them, for then you will obtain the full and complete picture.

"If you will advise me of the approximate dates when the witnesses we propose to present shall be given a hearing I will see that they are available in Washington to testify.

"I wish also at this time to make our position unmistakably clear.

"The Motion Picture industry has been accused of putting subversive, un-American propaganda on the screen.

"We deny that charge without reservation.

"The pictures themselves are proof of its complete falsity.

"This industry has been charged with having communists or communist sympathizers in its employ.

"Undoubtedly there are such persons in Hollywood as there are elsewhere in America. We neither shield nor defend them. We want to see them exposed.

"We have no responsibility for the political or economic views of any individual. But we are responsible for what goes on the screen. We watch that carefully. If communists have attempted to inject their propaganda into our pictures, they have failed miserably. We will never permit them to succeed.

'Abhor, Detest Communism'

"We abhor and detest communism. We abhor and detest this hateful doctrine because it would wipe out treasured American rights and freedoms and destroy the free enterprise system under which our industry has achieved its present stature, popularity and public support. We can survive only in a free society.

"If the motion picture industry were seeking to propound doctrines hostile to our free American society, this fact could hardly be kept a secret from the American people. They would have discovered it long ago, and would have told us so. The American people vote daily on our product at the box-office.

"If the motion picture industry were seeking to propound un-American doctrines, the enemies of the American system everywhere would not hate and fear us as they do. Communists everywhere hate and fear our motion pictures. Communist Russia persistently assaults the American screen. It attacks our screen day in and day out as an instrument of capitalism. It stabs at the American film in the hope of drawing blood out of the American system.

"In totalitarian lands, the screen is a servile and prostituted tool of the police state. There, strict conformity is imposed upon the press, the radio, and the motion picture as well as upon every individual. No slight deviation from the 'party line' is permitted. No subject of totalitarianism is allowed to mention any of its flagrant forms of injustice, inequality, corruption or crime.

"Strict conformity is the chief weapon of the police state. Conformity is thought control. It is censorship. It is the concentration camp of freedom.

"We join with every American in defending the sacred principles of freedom of speech but we have not and will not use that freedom as a cloak to propagate communistic or any other un-American doctrines on our screen.

"We have selected as our counsel Mr. Paul V. McNutt, who will represent us at the hearings.

"Again, I want to advise you that we desire to cooperate with your Committee for a fair and, I hope, conclusive hearing. Our industry has nothing to hide. It is exposed constantly and properly to the white light of publicity. It stands on its record in war and in peace."

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20th's Formula

(*Contnued from page* 1)

been reluctant to show expense figures, it is understood, as required.

They have also been averse to paying the costs of auditing their figures. A certified audit has been deemed necessary by the company before giving the specified theatres benefits of the plan.

With the exception of New Haven, where the plan was originally tested, most small theatres for whom the formula was designed, are not participating in the plan, it is understood.

The plan, as originally outlined by the company, offered the company's best pictures, to be played on percentage on a scale starting at 15 per cent of the gross and going up to 40 per cent, with 50-50 over the 40 per cent.

New York Group

(*Contnued from page* 1)

of trailers and shorts or lobby displays. They included Navy Recruiting, New York Fund, American Red Cross, Brotherhood Week, March of Dimes, Freedom Train, United Hospital Fund, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Greek War Orphans, United Nations Week, American Legion and the American Cancer Committee. In the case of Greek War Orphans, member theatres made individual contributions but in no case was there any audience collection.

Fred Schwartz, president, and all other officers continue in office, their two-year terms not expiring until Sept., 1948.

Bldg. Code

(*Continued from page* 1)

changes called for under fire safety provisions of the new code. Little or no re-construction expense will be caused theatres devoted exclusively to film showings, including drive-ins, he added. It was conceded that many stage show theatres are already up-to-date in terms of the new code.

Coggeshall offered another note of encouragement. The State Labor Board which is now engaged in studying the new code and recommendations made by theatremen and others at this year's hearings, he said, has the reputation usually of being "sensitive to public reaction," and, therefore, if the code, as it was presented to them, appears to be too stringent for any element of the public, including, of course, theatre owners, the board has the right to request further public hearings. At such additional hearings the objections and recommendations of those who would tend to be hurt by the code would have an opportunity to restate their cases.

Virtually no changes in drive-in construction will be required by the new code, Coggeshall said. Practically all recommendations made by drive-in representatives at public hearings have been incorporated in the revised code.

The new code will become law almost at once upon approval by the three-man board of State Labor Department executives now studying it, Coggeshall said. No state legislative approval is required, he added, explaining that any changes which will be made in the code will have been granted under the existing statute. Should the board approve the revised code this fall, as expected, it probably will call for its becoming official about two months from the date of signing by the board.

Century Meeting

(*Contnued from page* 1)

stress the need for a return to showmanship.

Schwartz will also review the company's merit rating plan, under which managers and district managers receive a share of the company's profits at the end of each year. Other speakers at the morning session will include: J. R. Springer, general theatre manager; Leslie Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., Century's "extra profits" division, and comptroller Martin H. Newman.

Springer will emphasize that showmanship is a "must" not only in the exploitation of pictures but also in such things as theatre cleanliness, staff courtesy, quality of the projection and sound, etc. He will announce the establishment of the A. H. Schwartz showmanship award, in honor of the founder, which will be presented each year to the Century manager who achieves the highest "showmanship" score under the merit rating plan.

Guest speakers at the afternoon session will include: Andrew W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager for 20th Century-Fox; Peter Levathes, short subjects sales manager for that company, and Max Youngstein, advertising-publicity director for Eagle Lion. Other speakers will be Sam Goodman, chief film buyer; Leonard Satz, director of purchasing and maintenance, and Edward Schreiber, advertising-publicity director.

KMTA Convention

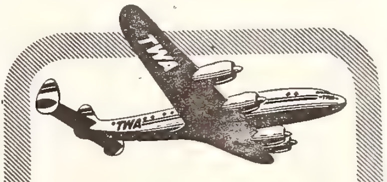
(*Continued from page* 1)

rio; Paul Mooney, National Screen Service; H. M. Richey, M-G-M; William Gehring, 20th-Fox; and Dave Palfreyman, MPA. Gov. Carlson of Kansas and Fred Wehrenberg of the TOA of St. Louis will be banquet speakers Wednesday evening.

Herman Levy, general counsel of the Theatre Owners Association, will be here, and will report on the MPTO and ATA merger, as will also R. B. Biechele of the KMTA and a member of the old MPTOA board. Elmer Rhoden, chairman of the TOA committee on ASCAP, will report on that situation. L. Hoenig of Fox Midwest will lead a discussion on local taxes instead of Senn Lawler, who was previously scheduled. Charles Crites will lead a discussion on theatre goodwill in communities. Finton Jones as well as others previously mentioned will discuss fire and other hazards in theatre operation. Sam Shain of 20th-Fox will speak.

Fire prevention is an important program item, with speakers C. D. Burton of Fog-Out Fire Extinguisher Co., and Clyde Latchem, Kansas state fire marshal. Byron Spencer, attorney for the association, will discuss legal matters, both generally and as specific questions are propounded. Earl Jameson of Exhibitors Film Delivery Service, Kansas City, and active in the national film service organization, will talk on film deliveries. Arlie Crites of Theatre Enterprises will lead discussions on theatre operation.

J. A. Becker, director from this area for the Motion Picture Foundation, will discuss that subject, and also talk on exhibitor-theatre relationships. The popcorn situation, called critical because of drought in some areas, and floods in the leading popcorn section, will be discussed by Woody Latimer, popcorn broker. C. A. Schultz, president of Commonwealth Theatres, is also on the program. The luncheon speaker tomorrow will be Mayor William Kemp of Kansas City.



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